SONG OF THE UNIVERSAL

SATB divisi with Piano and String Orchestra

Music by
Ola Gjeilo

Text by
Walt Whitman (1819-1892)

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Full score, string parts, and piano part available separately.
Order number WW1642A

From *Song of the Universal*

Come, said the Muse,
Sing me a song no poet yet has chanted,
Sing me the Universal.

In this broad Earth of ours,
Amid the measureless grossness and the slag,
Enclosed and safe within its central heart,
Nestles the seed Perfection.

By every life a share, or more or less,
None born but it is born–conceal'd or unconceal'd, the seed is waiting.

Give me, O God, to sing that thought!
Give me–give him or her I love, this quenchless faith
In Thy ensemble. Whatever else withheld, withhold not from us,
Belief in plan of Thee enclosed in Time and Space;
Health, peace, salvation universal.

All, all for Immortality!
Love, like the light, silently wrapping all!
Nature's amelioration blessing all!
The blossoms, fruits of ages—orchards divine and certain;
Forms, objects, growths, humanities, to spiritual Images ripening.

- *Walt Whitman*

Performance Suggestions

• To achieve the ideal lush, symphonic sound, the recommended number of strings is 24 (8,6,4,4,2) – but the work can be performed with fewer (or more) as well.

• For the theme first introduced at letter B, it can be useful to imagine the rapid eighth-notes slightly ahead of the beat, since the line might have a tendency to lag a little in this tempo.

• At measures 122-130, the choir is functioning as the background to the strings and piano.

Approx. duration: 11:30 mins.

About the Composer

Ola Gjeilo was born in Norway in 1978 and moved to the United States in 2001 to begin his composition studies at the Juilliard School in New York City.

His albums include *Ola Gjeilo* on the Decca Classics label, a collection of choral and piano works featuring Tenebrae and Voces8. Ola's debut recording as a composer and pianist, the lyrical crossover album *Stone Rose*, was followed by its 2012 sequel *Piano Improvisations,* both on the 2L label. Phoenix Chorale's *Northern Lights* collection of Ola's choral music on Chandos was named iTunes Best Classical Vocal Album of 2012. All four recordings are available on iTunes, Amazon, Google Play, and Spotify.

A full-time composer based in New York City, Gjeilo (pronounced yay-lo) is also very interested in film, and his music often draws inspiration from movies and cinematic music.

Ola's choral works are published by Walton Music, wind band works by Boosey & Hawkes, and piano pieces by Edition Peters.

For more information, visit olagjeilo.com or find Ola on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and at his YouTube channel.

Song of the Universal

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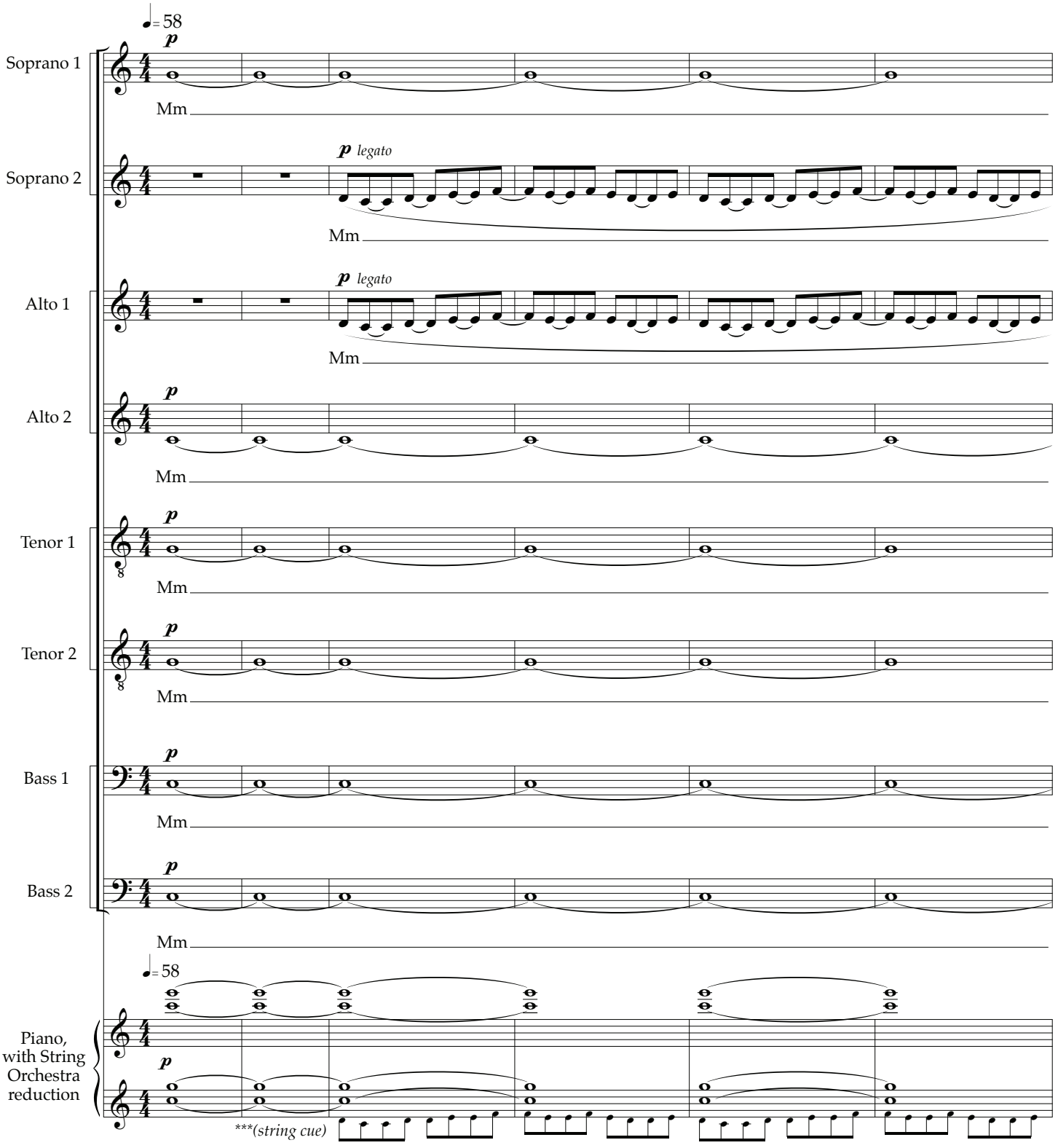

*** Also available for SSAA. Order number WW1526**
**** Full score, string parts and piano part available separately. Order number WW1642A.**
***** Strings cue for rehearsal only. Cannot be performed without strings.**

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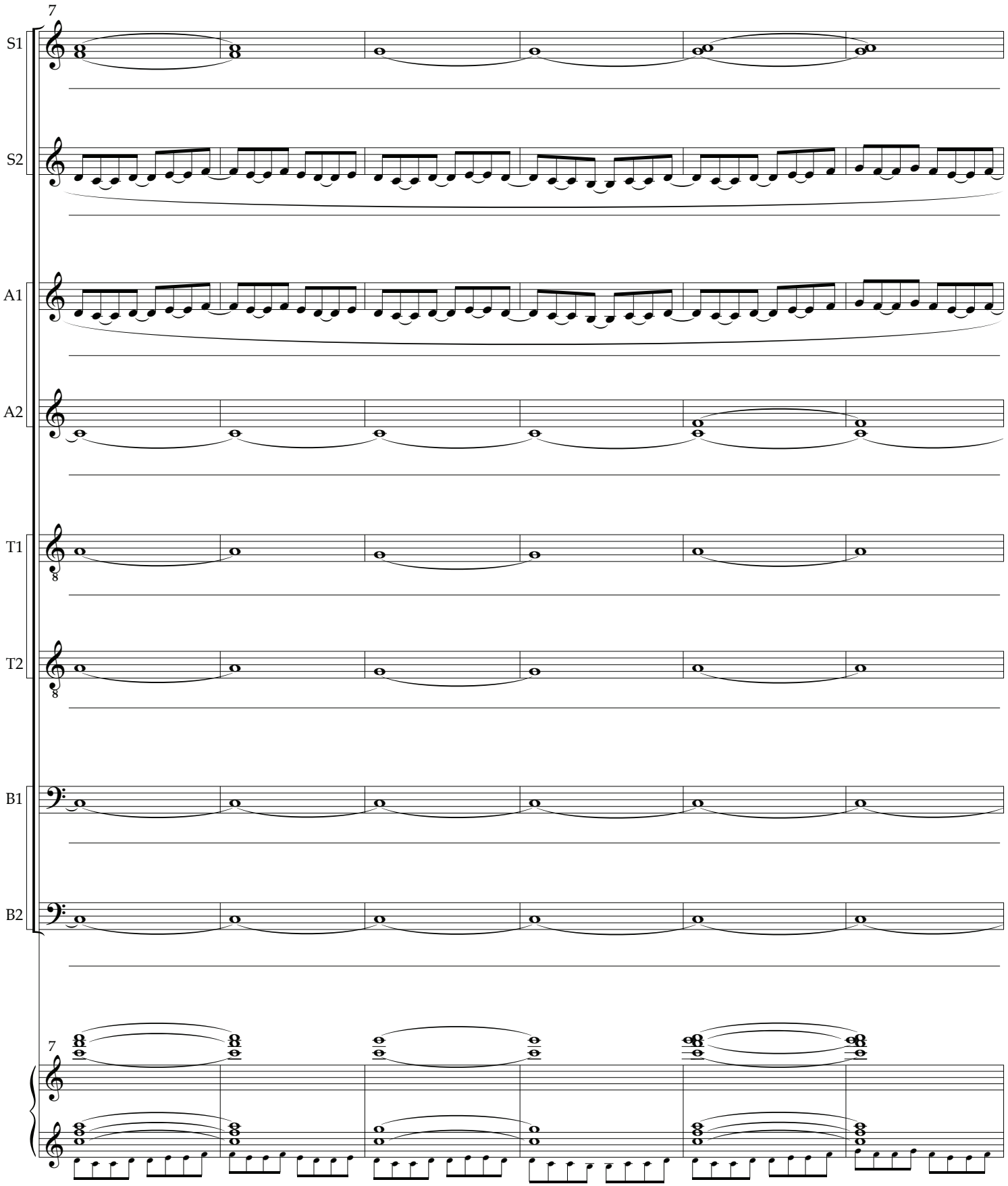
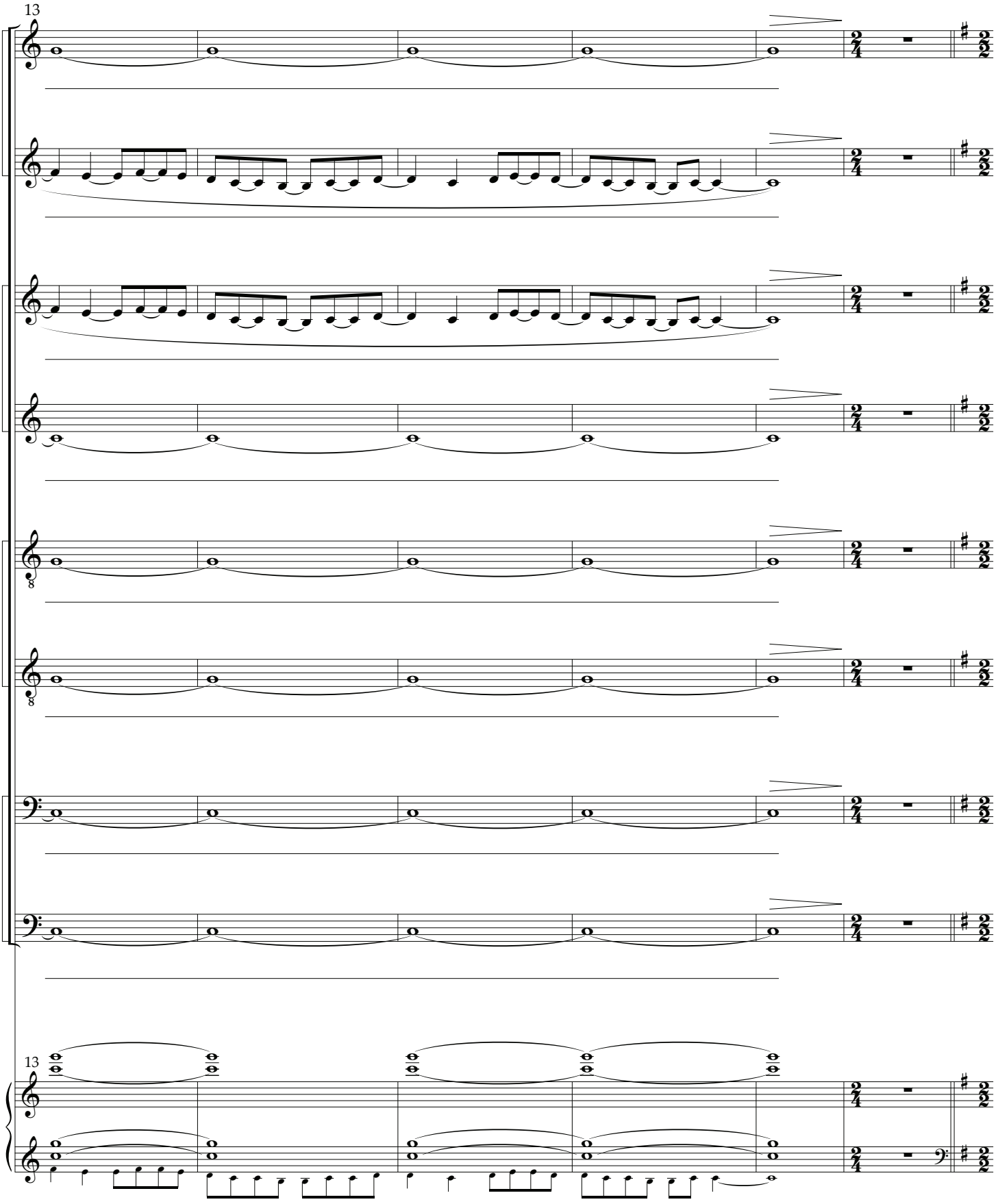
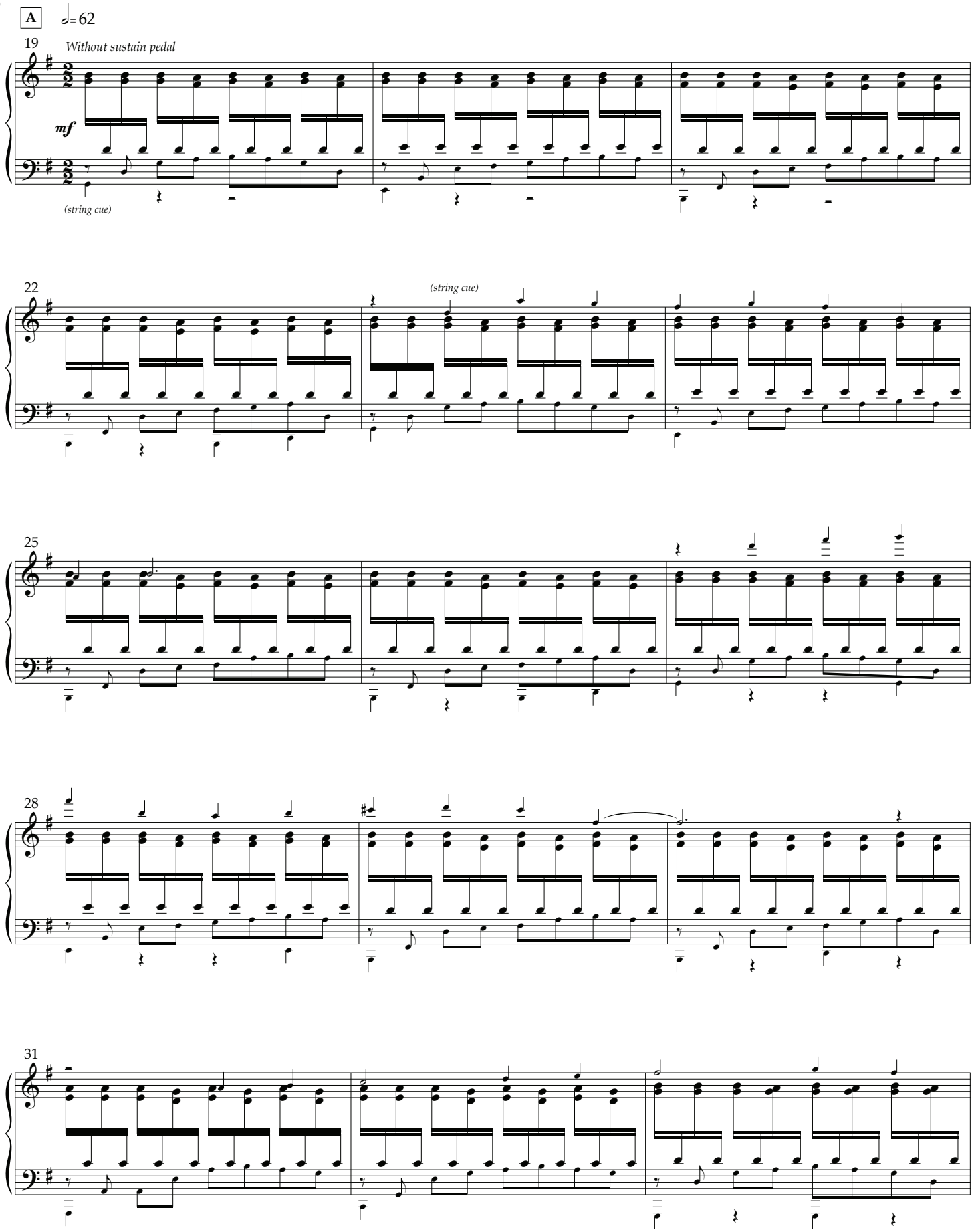
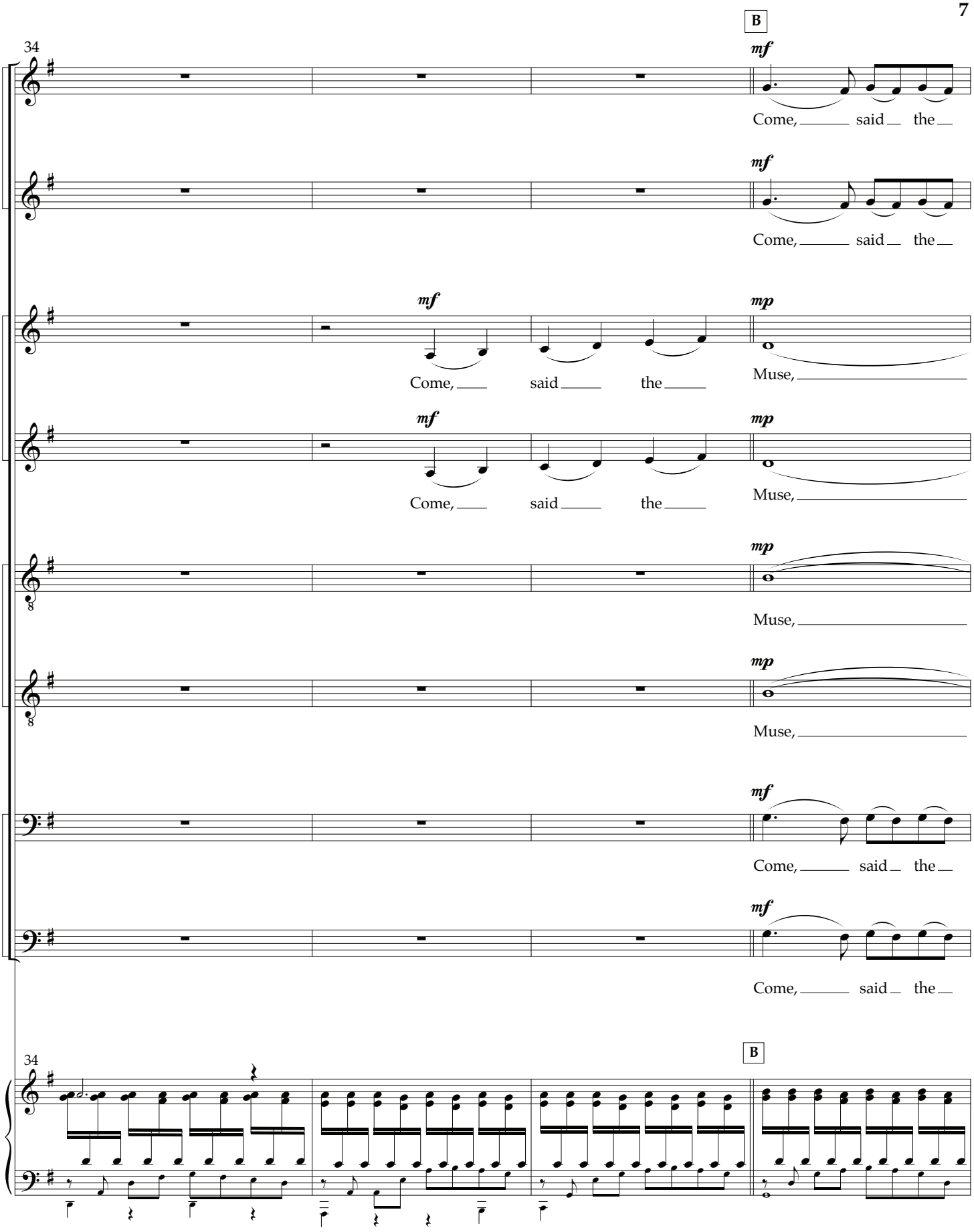
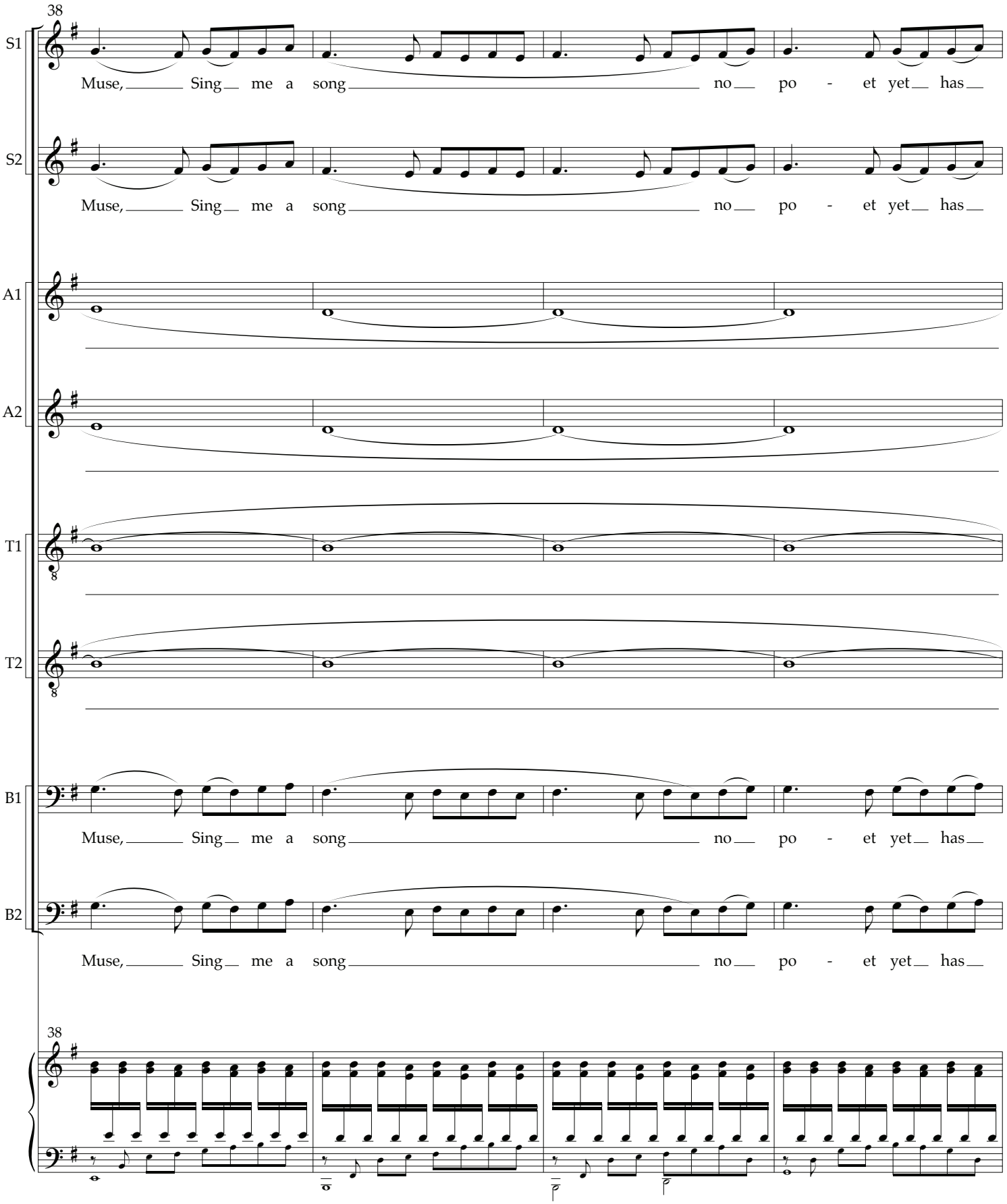
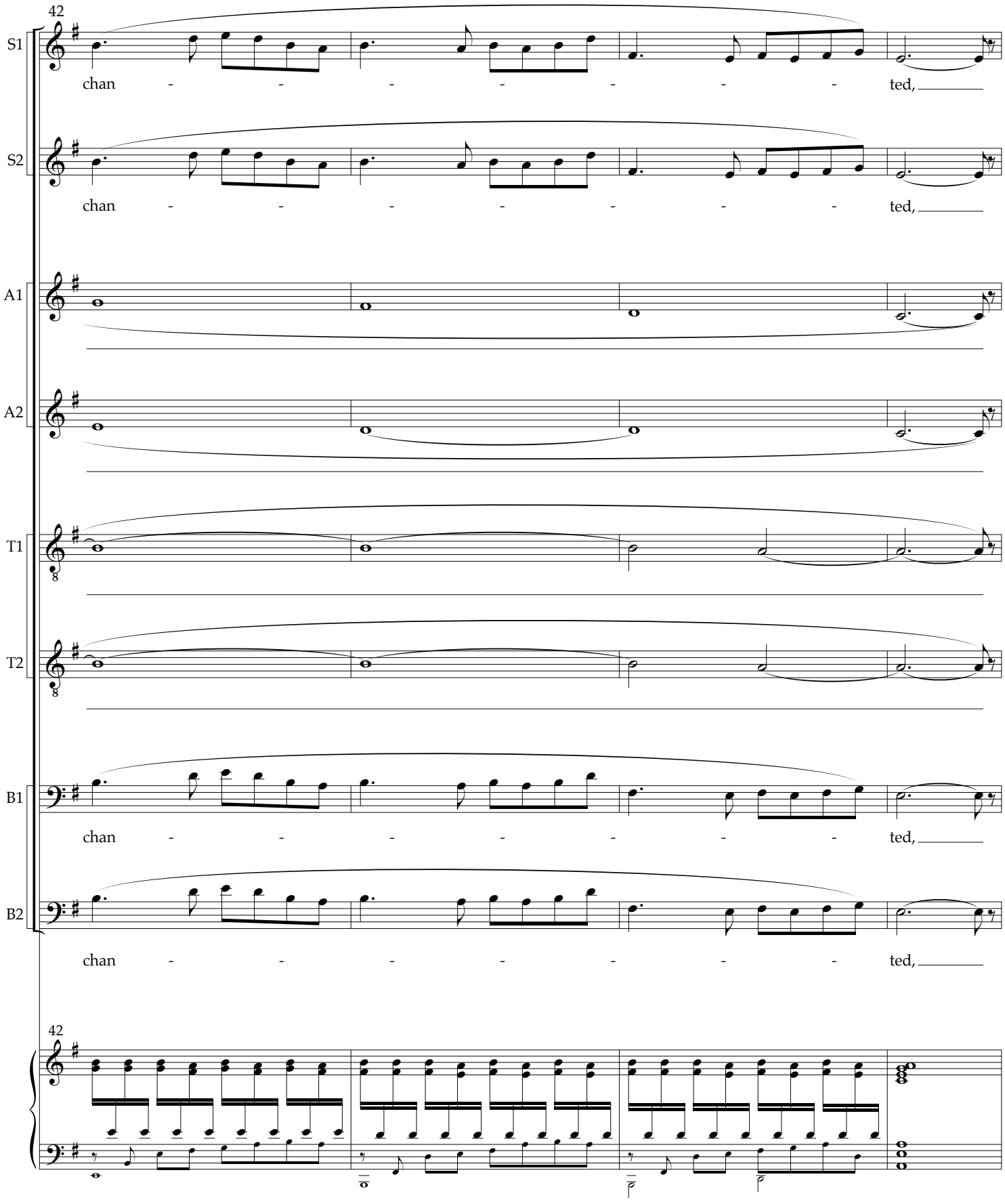

7
S1
S2
A1
A2
T1
T2
B1
B2
7

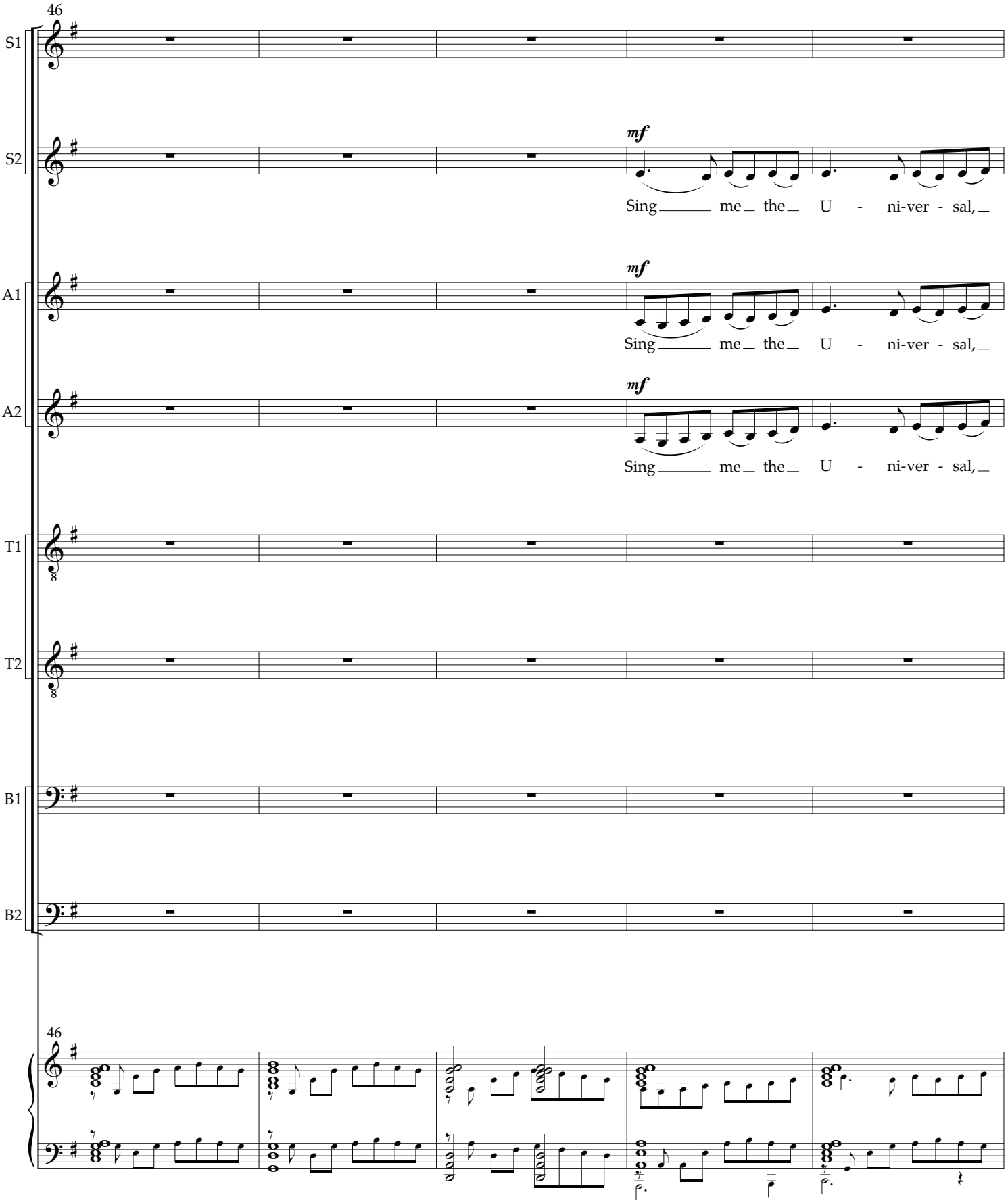

13
S1
S2
A1
A2
T1
T2
B1
B2
13

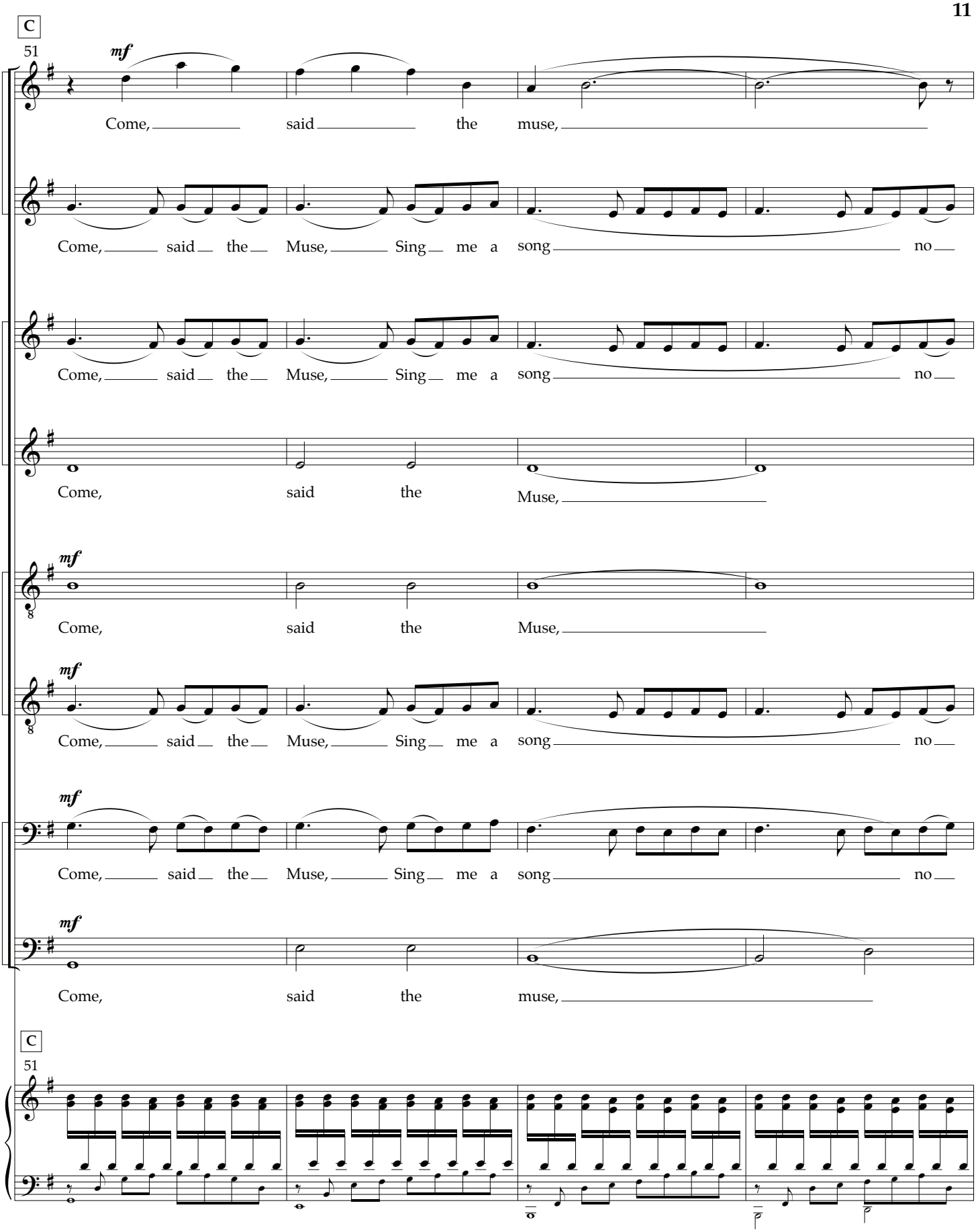

A
♩= 62
19
Without sustain pedal
mf
(string cue)
22
(string cue)
25
28
31

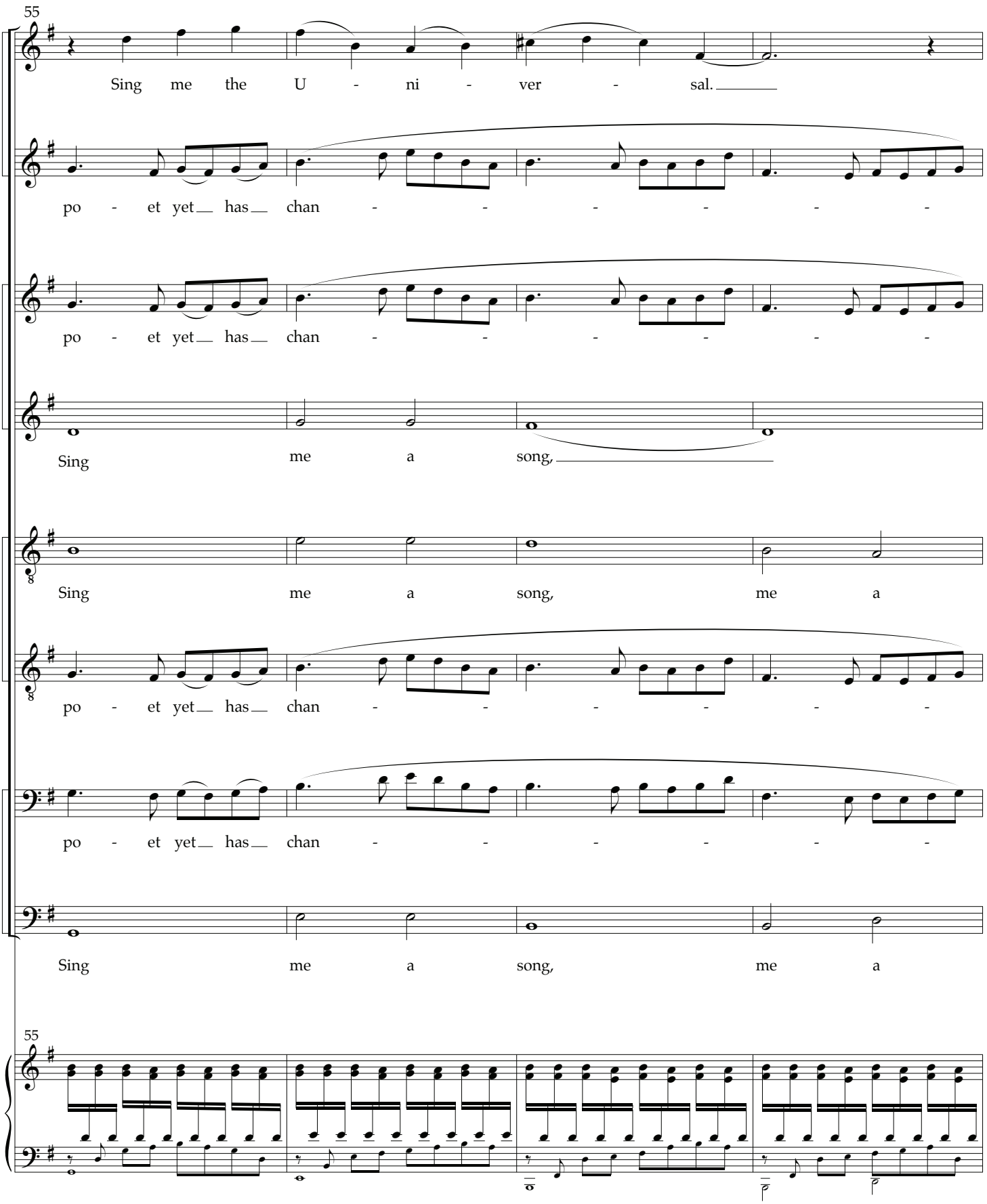

34
B
S1
mf
Come, said the
S2
mf
Come, said the
A1
mf
Come, said the
mp
Muse,
A2
mf
Come, said the
mp
Muse,
T1
mp
Muse,
T2
mp
Muse,
B1
mf
Come, said the
B2
mf
Come, said the
34
B

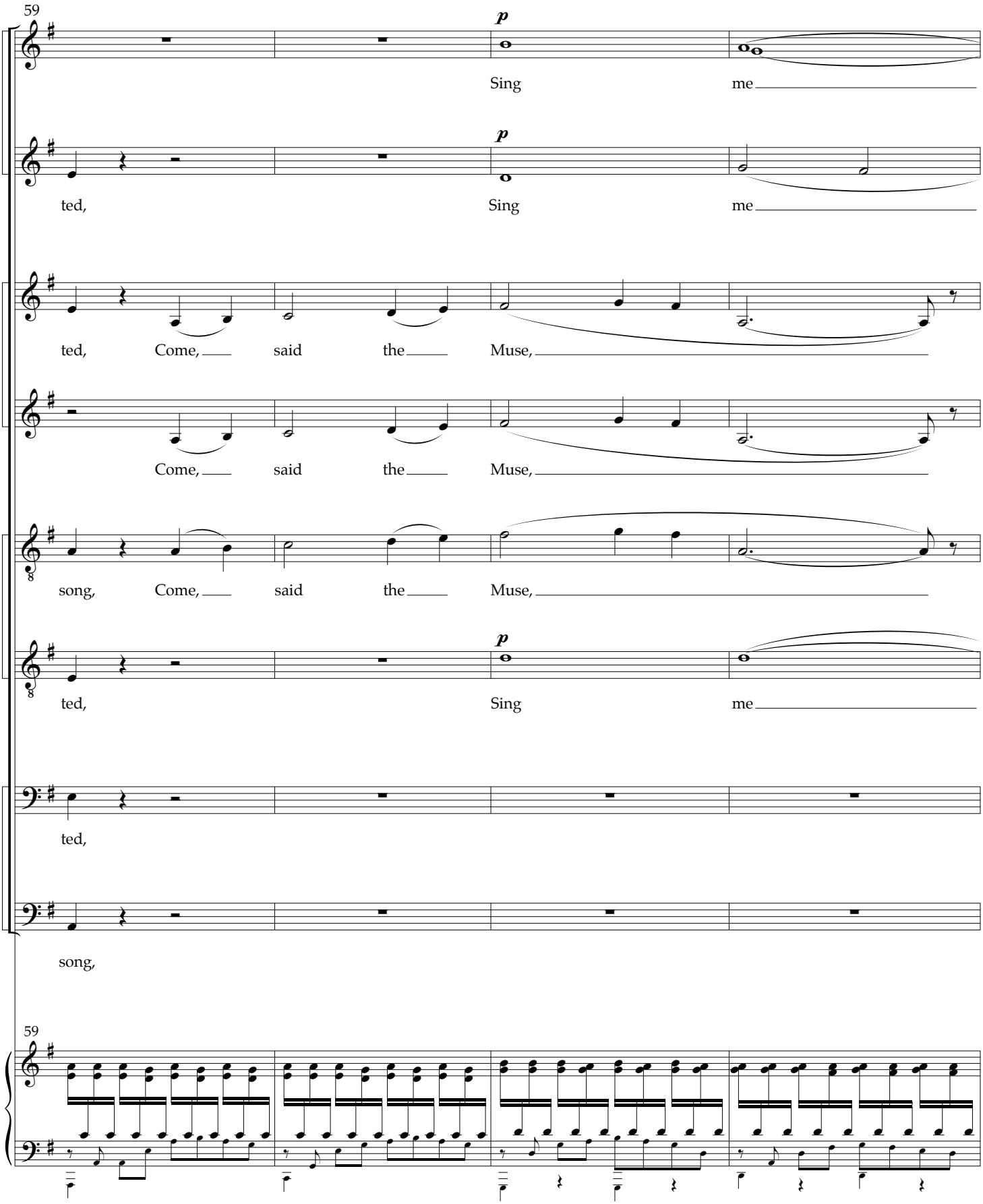

38
S1
Muse, Sing me a song no po - et yet has
S2
Muse, Sing me a song no po - et yet has
A1
A2
T1
T2
B1
Muse, Sing me a song no po - et yet has
B2
Muse, Sing me a song no po - et yet has
38

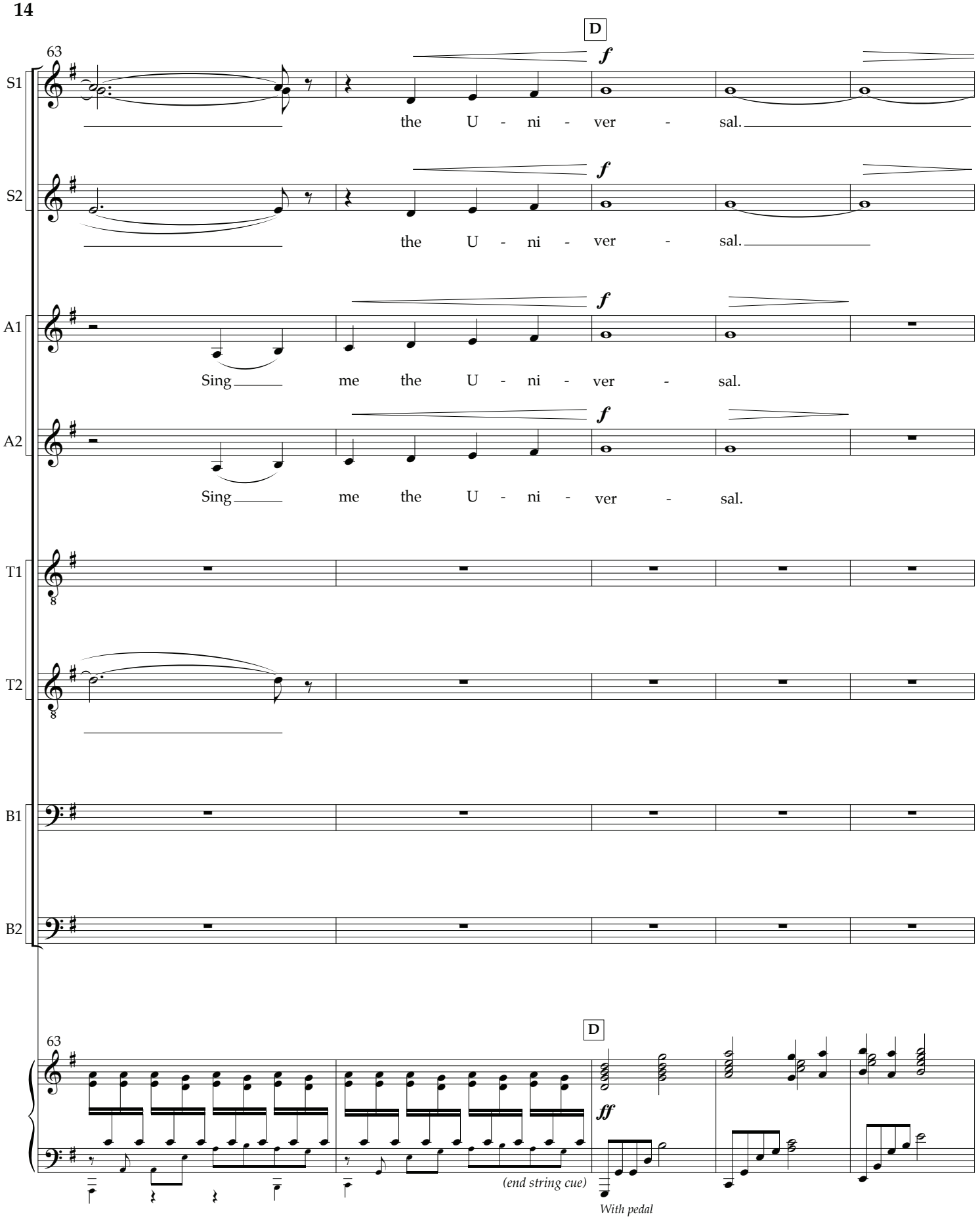

42
S1
chan - - - - - - - ted,
S2
chan - - - - - - - ted,
A1
A2
T1
T2
B1
chan - - - - - - - ted,
B2
chan - - - - - - - ted,
42

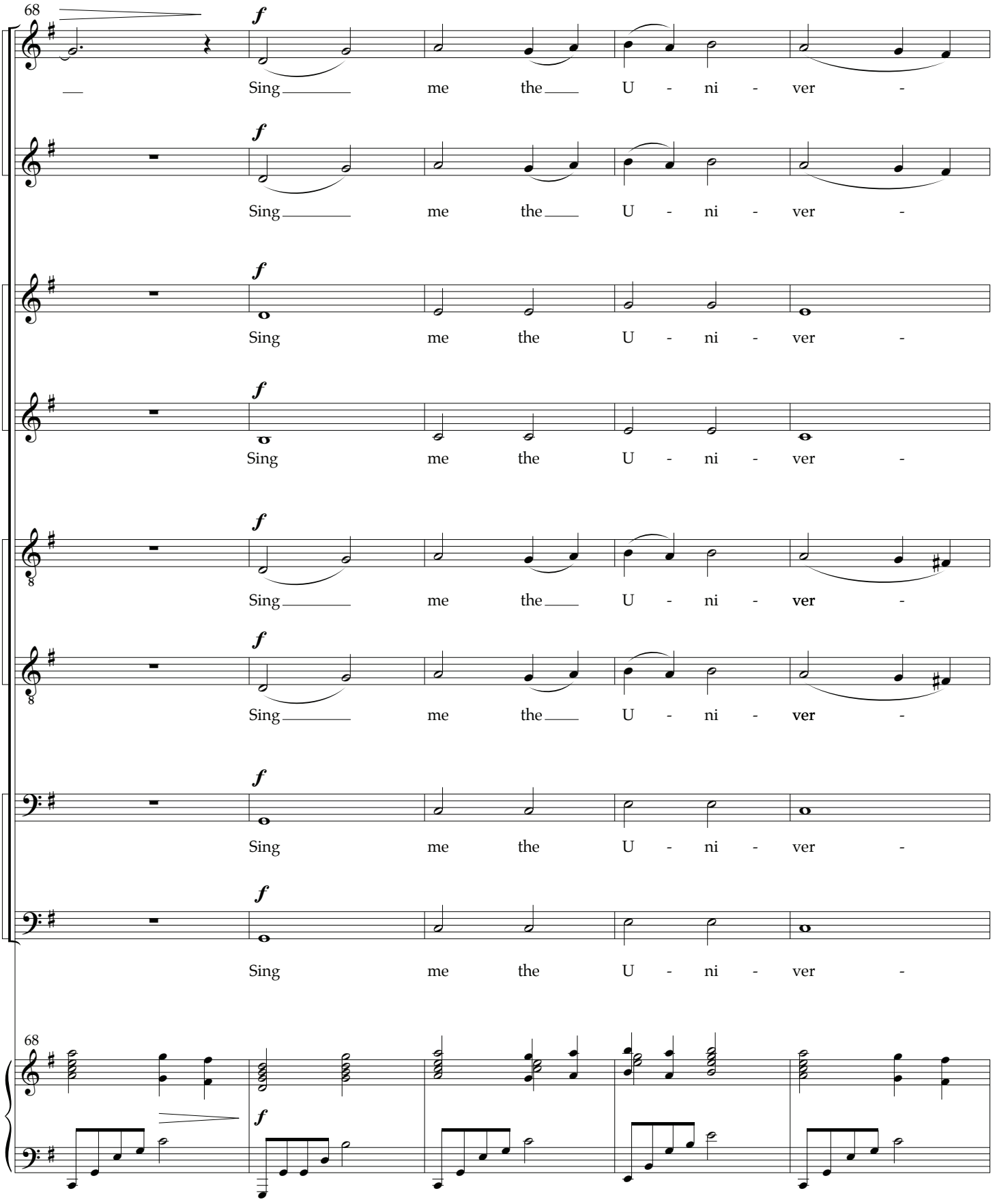

46
S1
S2
mf
Sing me the U - ni-ver - sal,
A1
mf
Sing me the U - ni-ver - sal,
A2
mf
Sing me the U - ni-ver - sal,
T1
T2
B1
B2
46

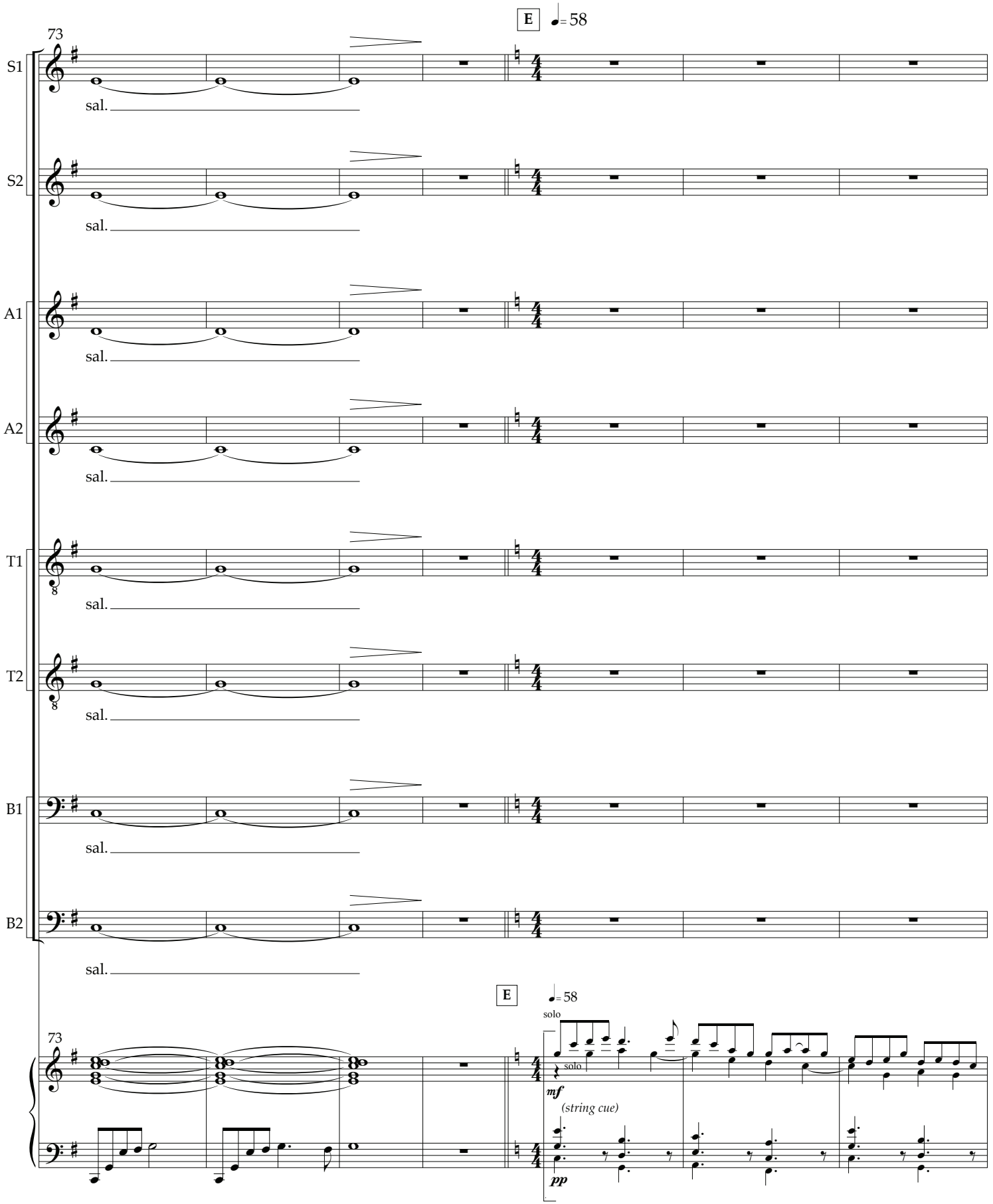

C
51
mf
S1
Come, said the muse,
S2
Come, said the Muse, Sing me a song no
A1
Come, said the Muse, Sing me a song no
A2
Come, said the Muse,
mf
T1
Come, said the Muse,
mf
T2
Come, said the Muse, Sing me a song no
mf
B1
Come, said the Muse, Sing me a song no
mf
B2
Come, said the muse,
C
51

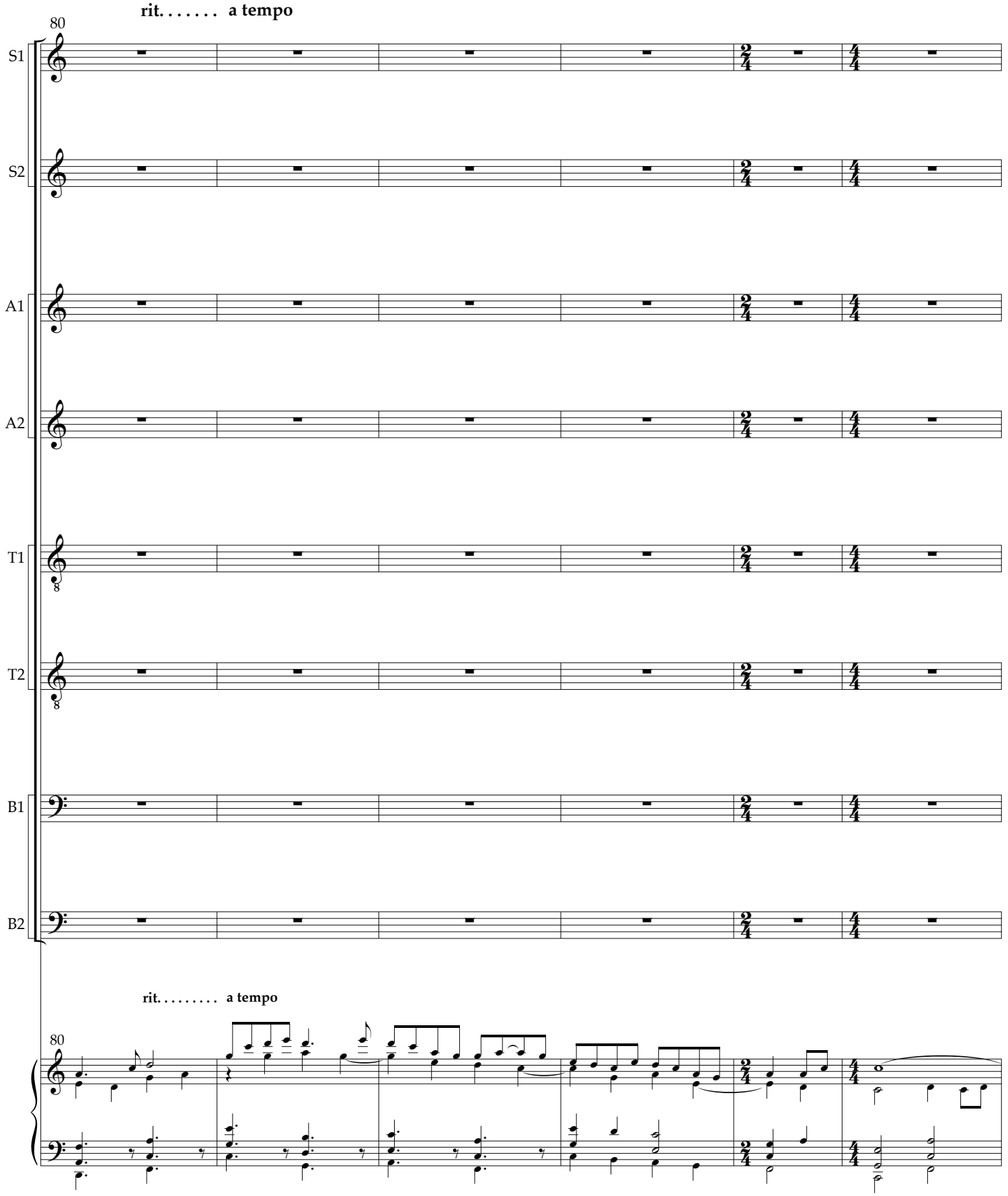

55
S1
Sing me the U - ni - ver - sal.
S2
po - et yet has chan - - - - - -
A1
po - et yet has chan - - - - - -
A2
Sing me a song,
T1
Sing me a song, me a
T2
po - et yet has chan - - - - - -
B1
po - et yet has chan - - - - - -
B2
Sing me a song, me a
55

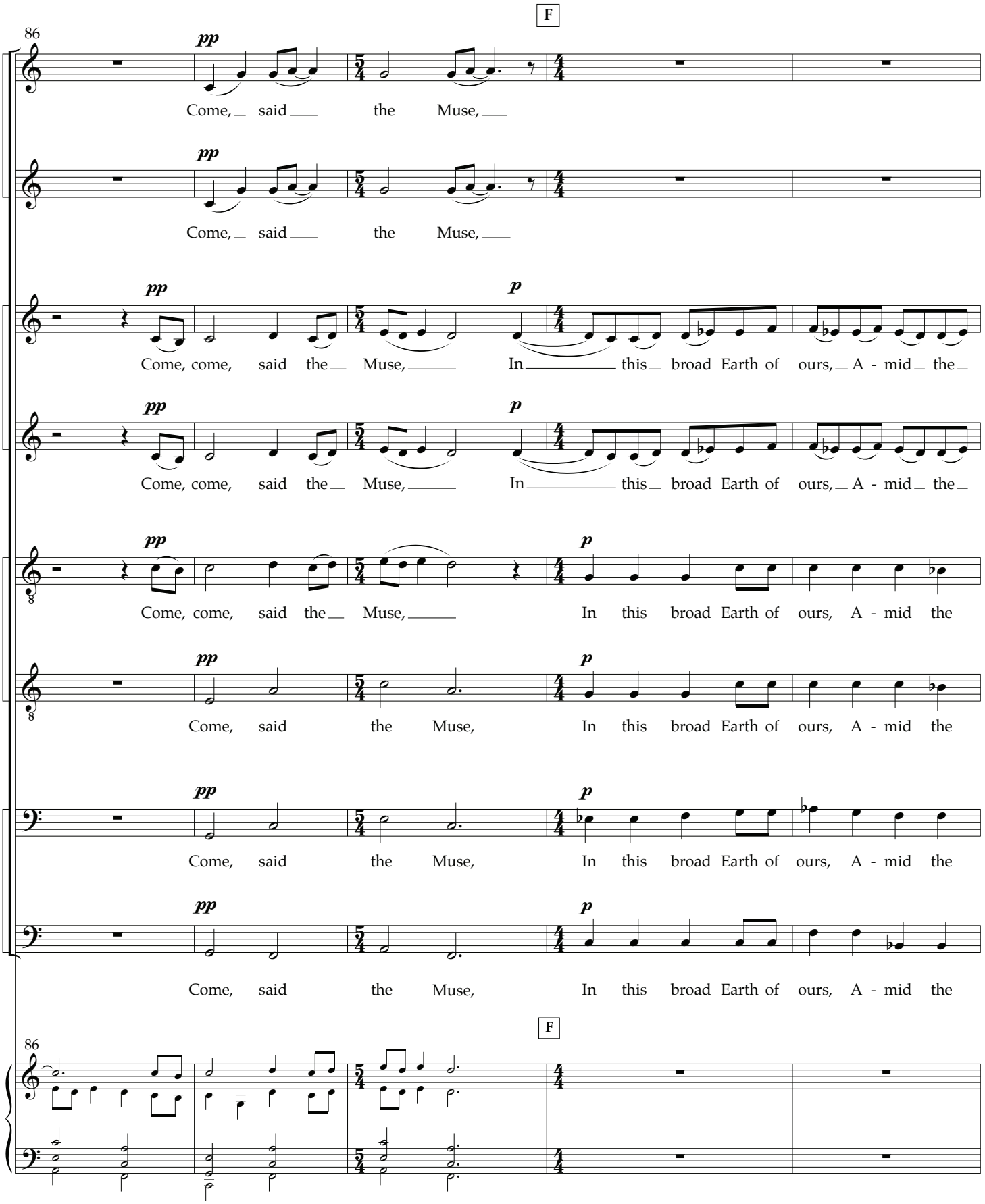

59
S1
p
Sing
me
S2
p
ted,
Sing
me
A1
ted, Come, said the Muse,
A2
Come, said the Muse,
T1
song, Come, said the Muse,
T2
p
ted,
Sing
me
B1
ted,
B2
song,
59

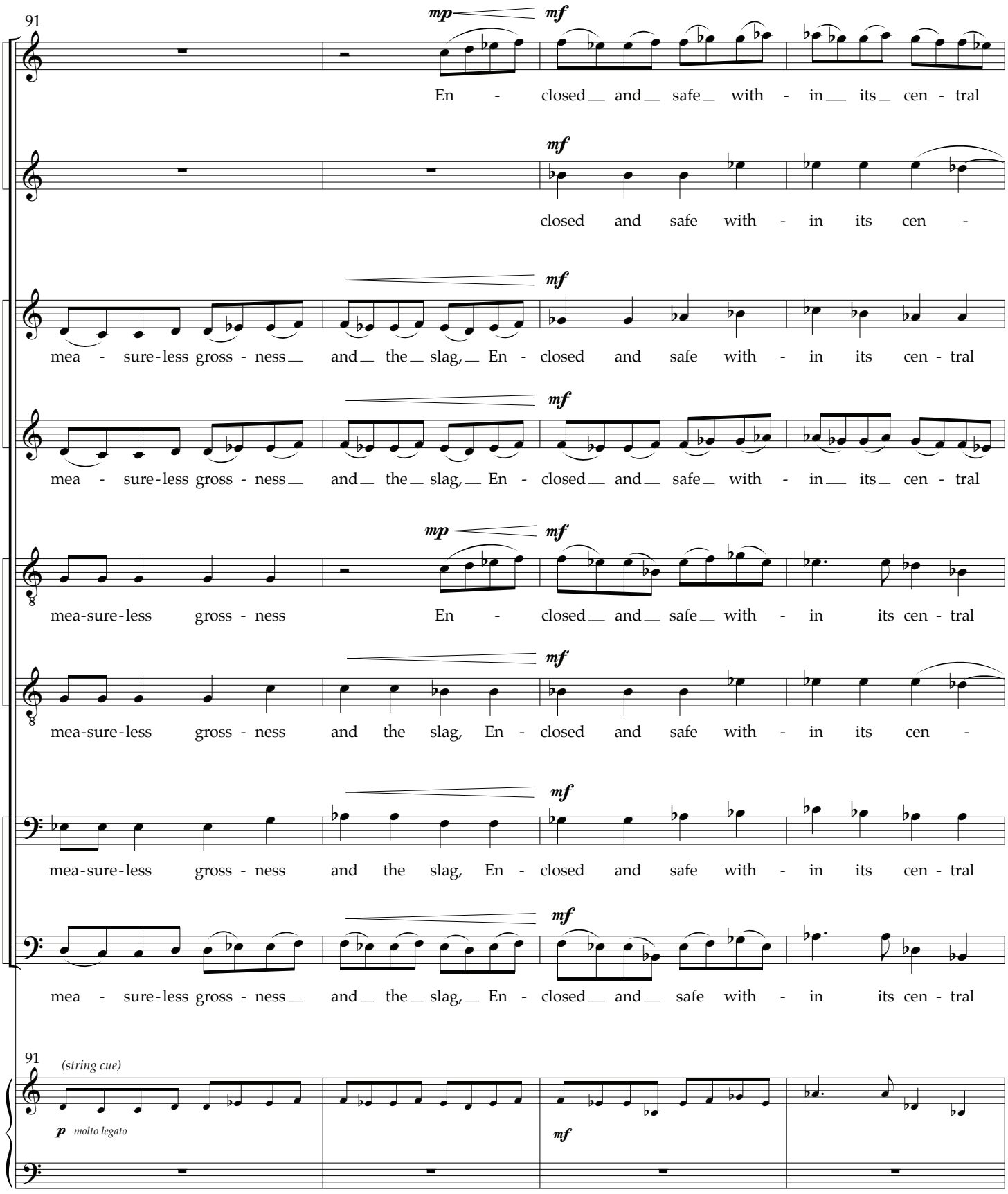

63
D
S1
the U - ni - ver - sal.
S2
the U - ni - ver - sal.
A1
Sing me the U - ni - ver - sal.
A2
Sing me the U - ni - ver - sal.
T1
T2
B1
B2
63
D
(end string cue)
With pedal

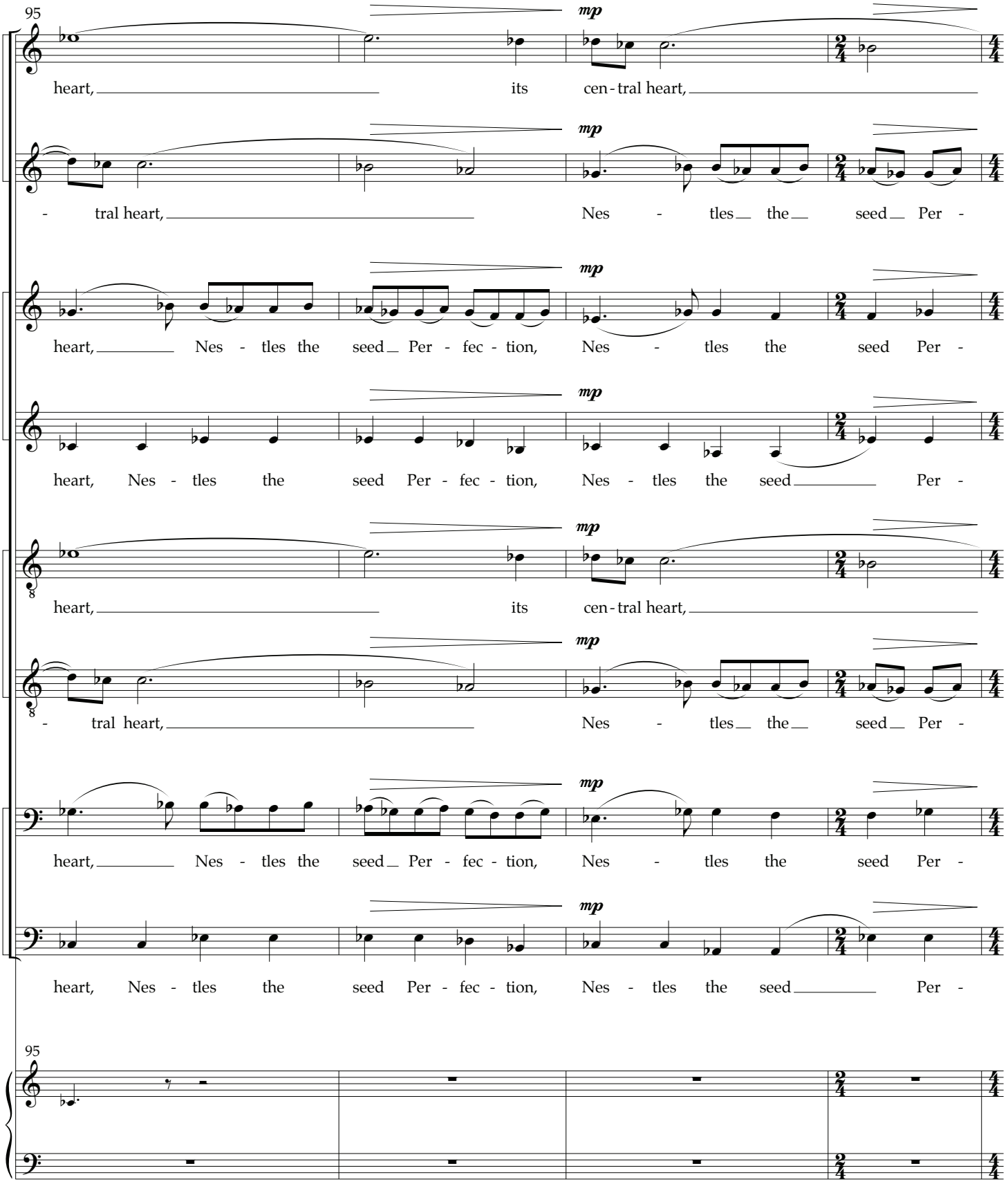

68
S1
S2
A1
A2
T1
T2
B1
B2
f
Sing me the U - ni - ver -
68
f

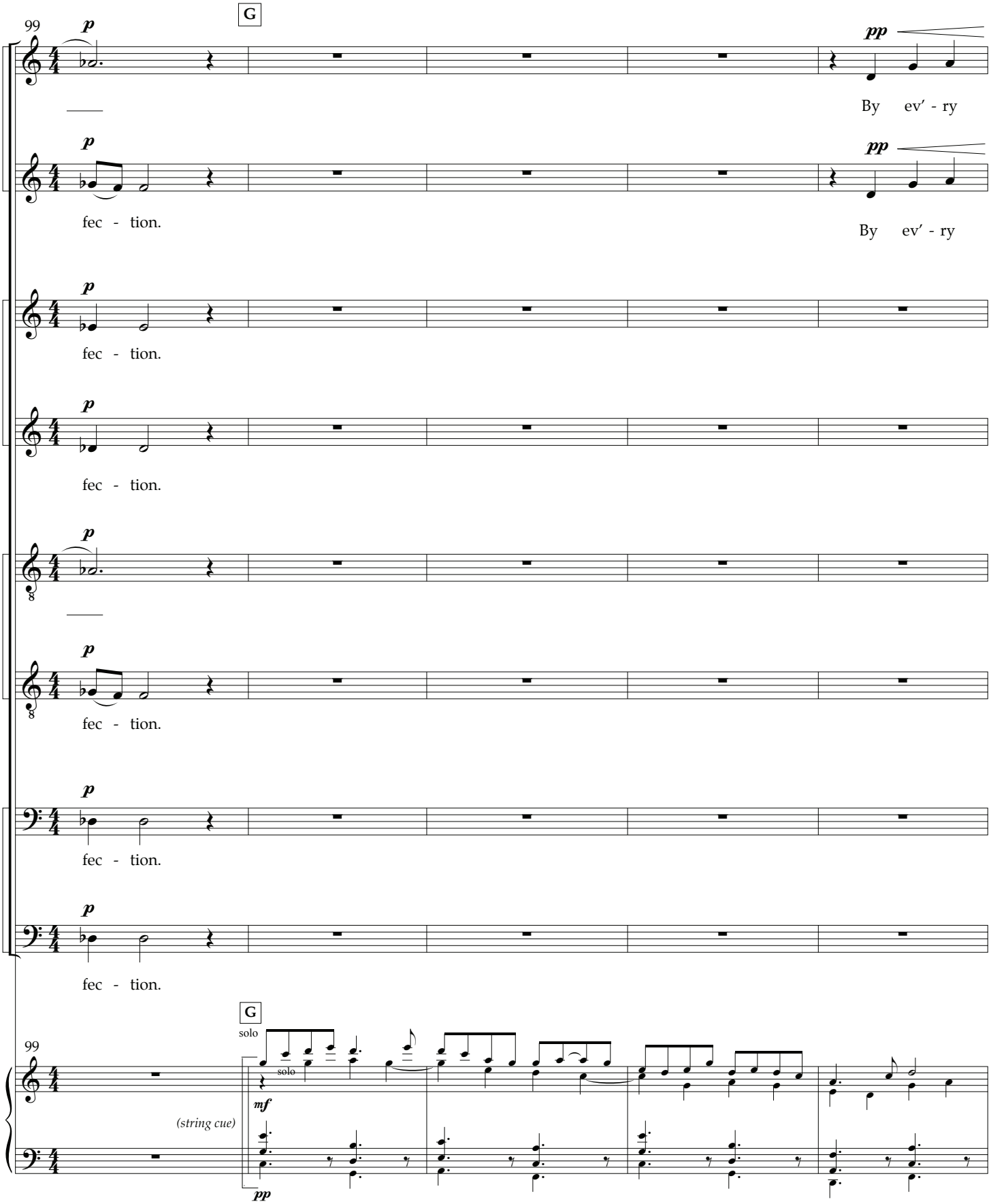

73
E
= 58
S1
sal.
S2
sal.
A1
sal.
A2
sal.
T1
sal.
T2
sal.
B1
sal.
B2
sal.
73
E
= 58
solo
solo
mf
(string cue)
pp

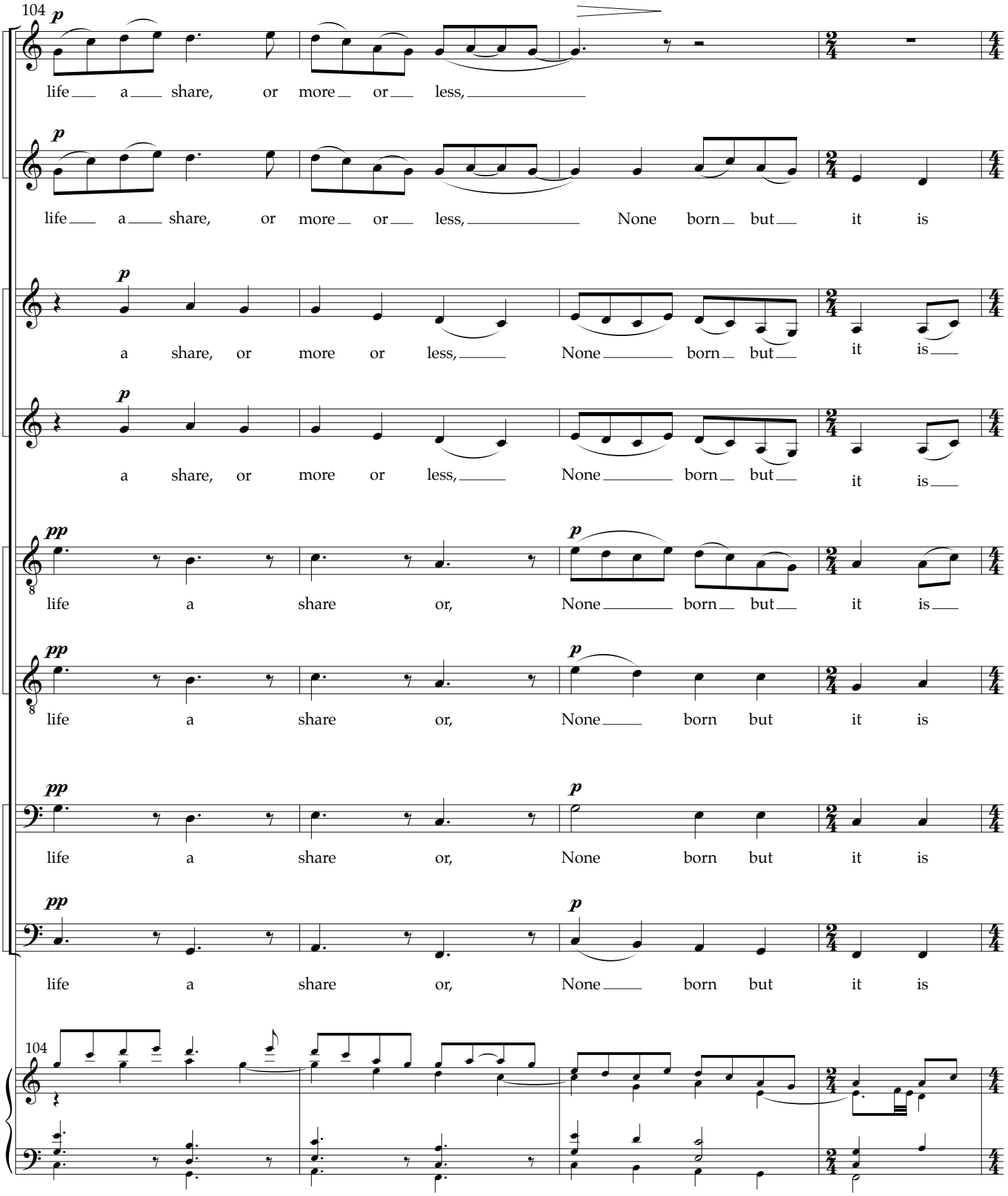

rit. . . . . a tempo
80
S1
S2
A1
A2
T1
T2
B1
B2
rit. . . . . a tempo
80

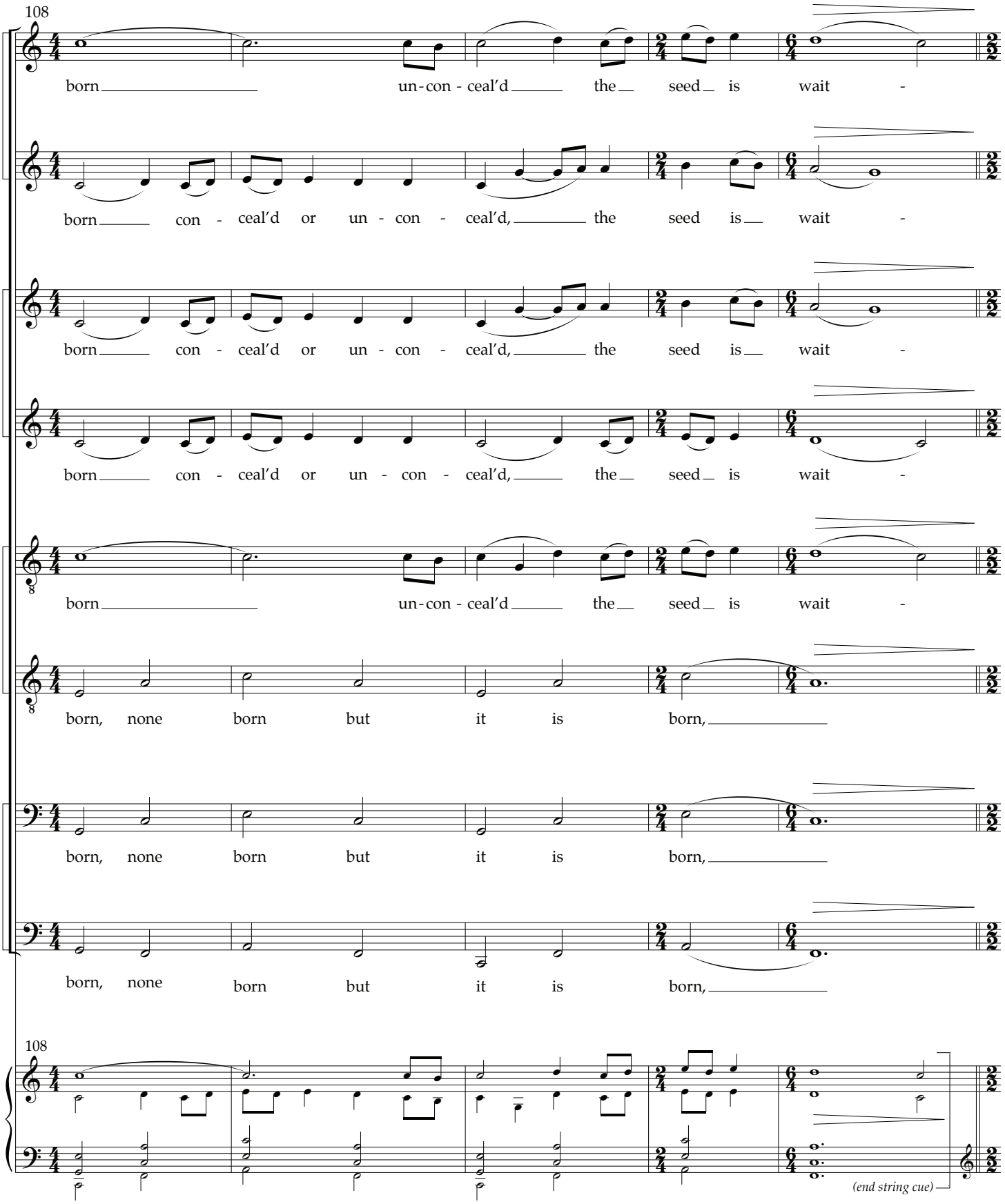

F
86
S1
pp
Come, said the Muse,
S2
pp
Come, said the Muse,
A1
pp
p
Come, come, said the Muse, In this broad Earth of ours, A - mid the
A2
pp
p
Come, come, said the Muse, In this broad Earth of ours, A - mid the
T1
pp
p
Come, come, said the Muse, In this broad Earth of ours, A - mid the
T2
pp
p
Come, said the Muse, In this broad Earth of ours, A - mid the
B1
pp
p
Come, said the Muse, In this broad Earth of ours, A - mid the
B2
pp
p
Come, said the Muse, In this broad Earth of ours, A - mid the
F
86

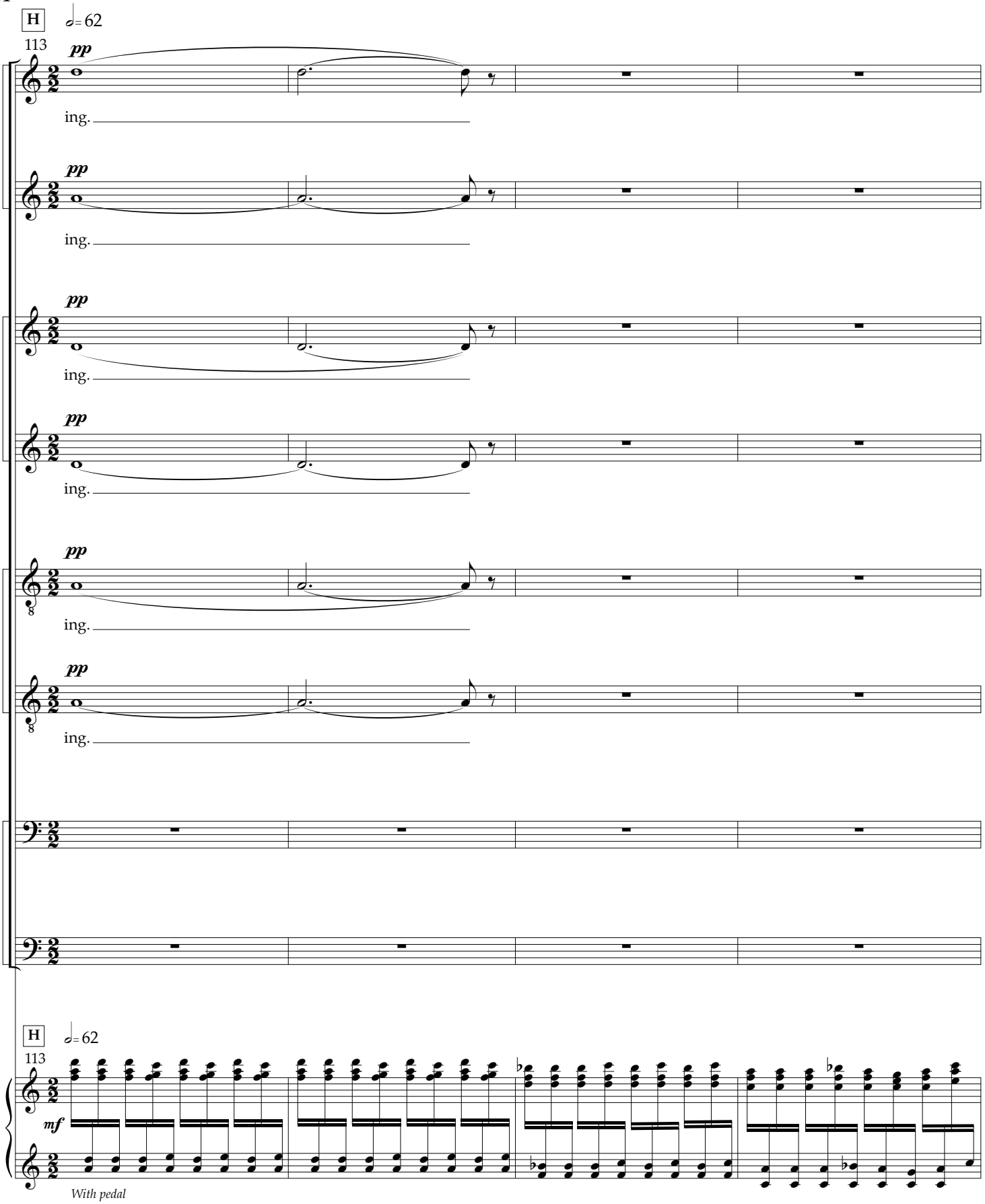

91
S1
mp
mf
En - closed and safe with - in its cen - tral
S2
mf
closed and safe with - in its cen -
A1
mf
mea - sure-less gross - ness and the slag, En - closed and safe with - in its cen - tral
A2
mf
mea - sure-less gross - ness and the slag, En - closed and safe with - in its cen - tral
T1
mp
mf
mea-sure-less gross - ness En - closed and safe with - in its cen - tral
T2
mf
mea-sure-less gross - ness and the slag, En - closed and safe with - in its cen -
B1
mf
mea-sure-less gross - ness and the slag, En - closed and safe with - in its cen - tral
B2
mf
mea - sure-less gross - ness and the slag, En - closed and safe with - in its cen - tral
91
(string cue)
p molto legato
mf

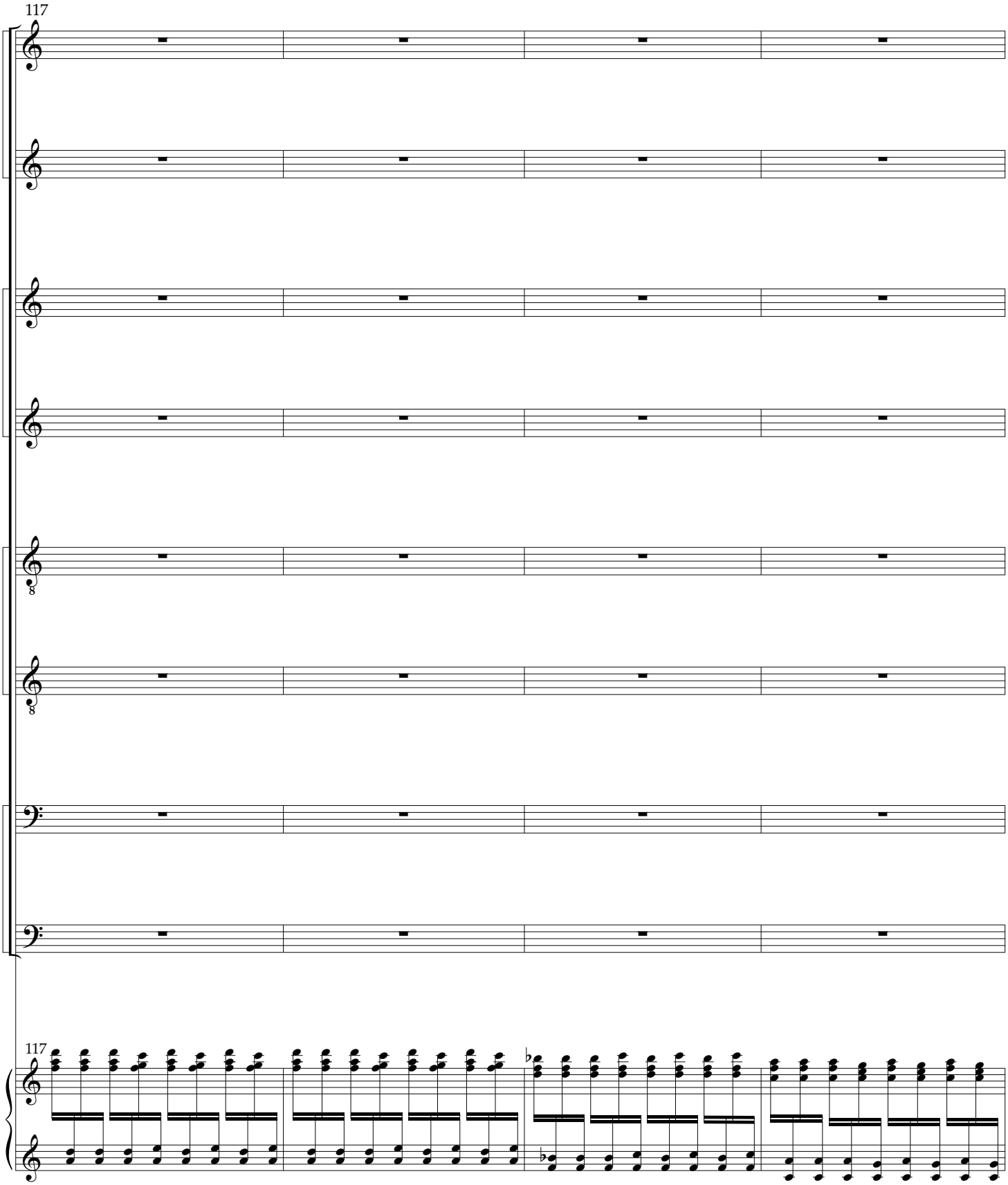

95
S1
heart, its cen - tral heart,
mp
S2
- tral heart, Nes - tles the seed Per -
A1
heart, Nes - tles the seed Per - fec - tion, Nes - tles the seed Per -
A2
heart, Nes - tles the seed Per - fec - tion, Nes - tles the seed Per -
T1
heart, its cen - tral heart,
T2
- tral heart, Nes - tles the seed Per -
B1
heart, Nes - tles the seed Per - fec - tion, Nes - tles the seed Per -
B2
heart, Nes - tles the seed Per - fec - tion, Nes - tles the seed Per -
95

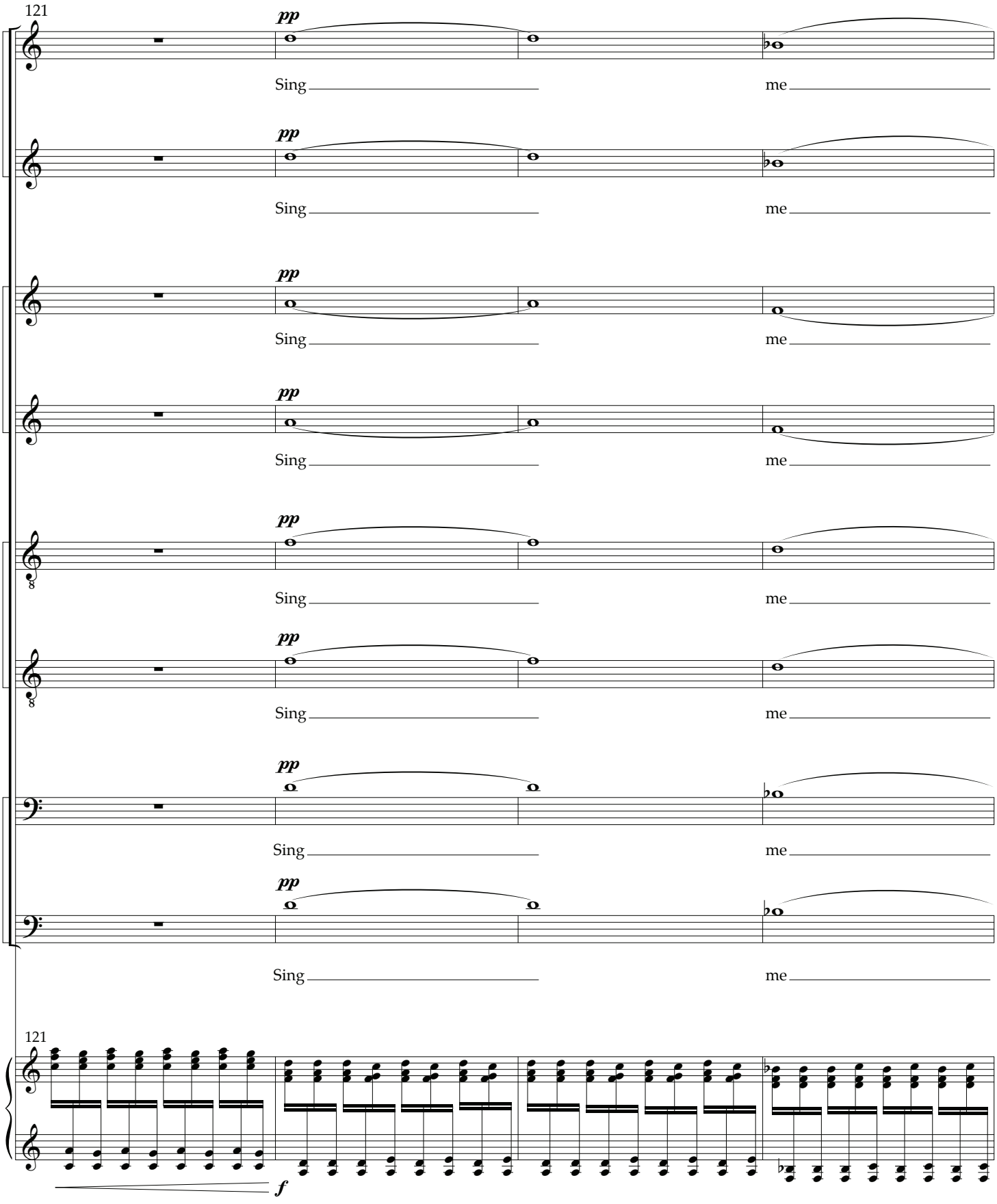

99
G
S1
p
pp
By ev' - ry
S2
fec - tion.
By ev' - ry
A1
fec - tion.
A2
fec - tion.
T1
fec - tion.
T2
fec - tion.
B1
fec - tion.
B2
fec - tion.
99
G
solo
mf
(string cue)
pp

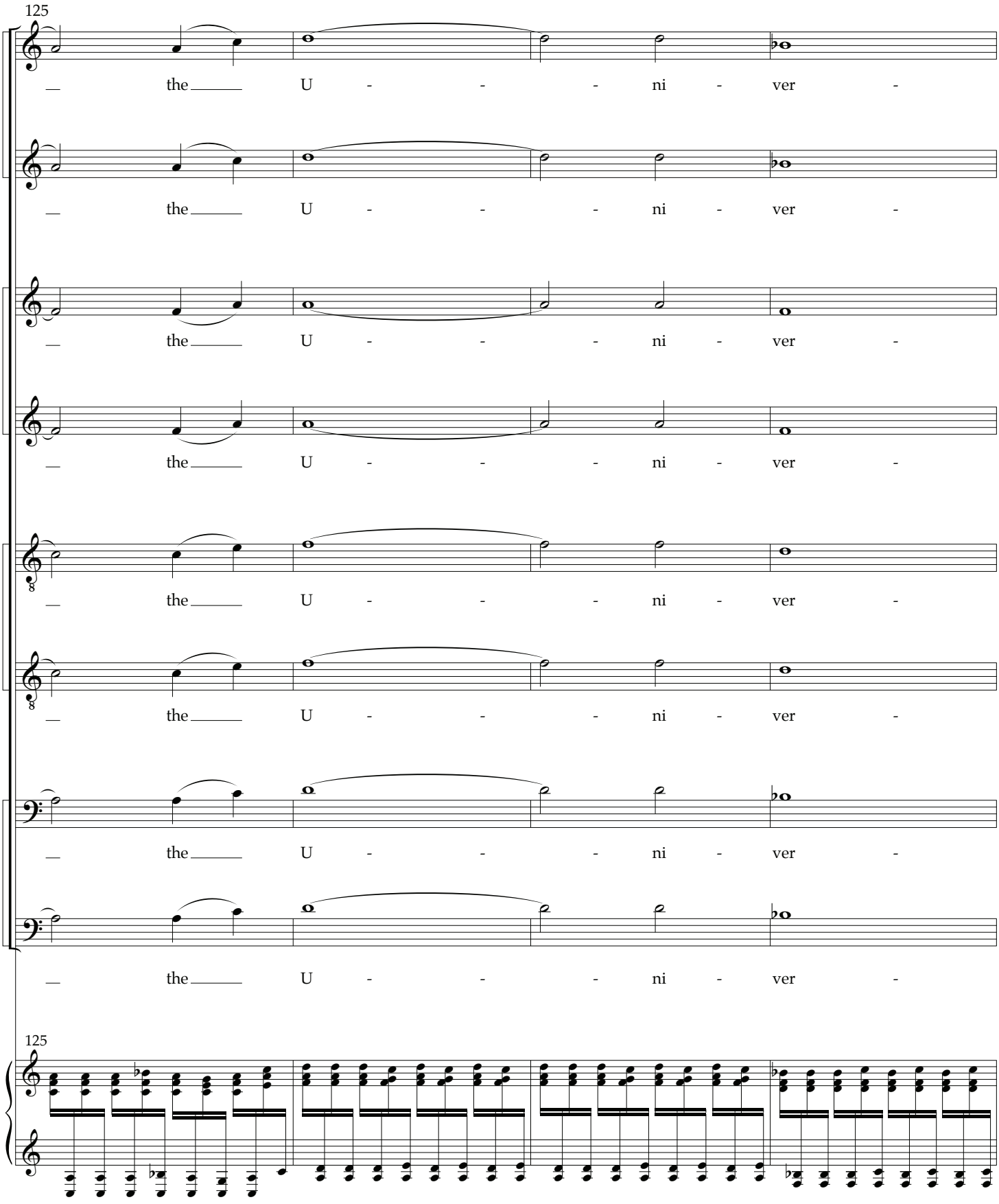

104
S1
p
life a share, or more or less,
S2
p
life a share, or more or less, None born but it is
A1
p
a share, or more or less, None born but it is
A2
p
a share, or more or less, None born but it is
T1
pp
life a share or,
p
None born but it is
T2
pp
life a share or,
p
None born but it is
B1
pp
life a share or,
p
None born but it is
B2
pp
life a share or,
p
None born but it is
104

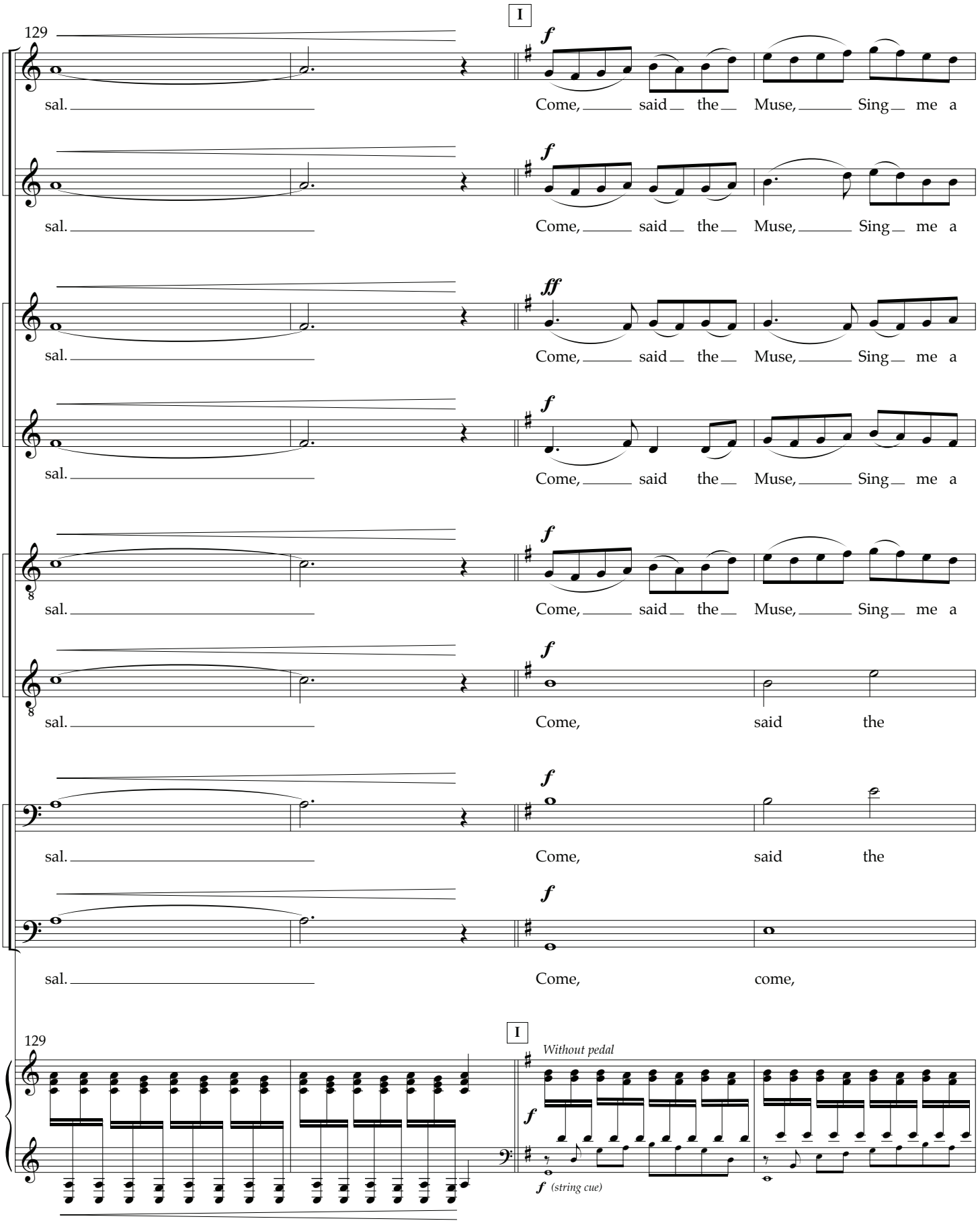

108
S1
born un-con-ceal'd the seed is wait -
S2
born con-ceal'd or un-con-ceal'd, the seed is wait -
A1
born con-ceal'd or un-con-ceal'd, the seed is wait -
A2
born con-ceal'd or un-con-ceal'd, the seed is wait -
T1
born un-con-ceal'd the seed is wait -
T2
born, none born but it is born,
B1
born, none born but it is born,
B2
born, none born but it is born,
108
(end string cue)

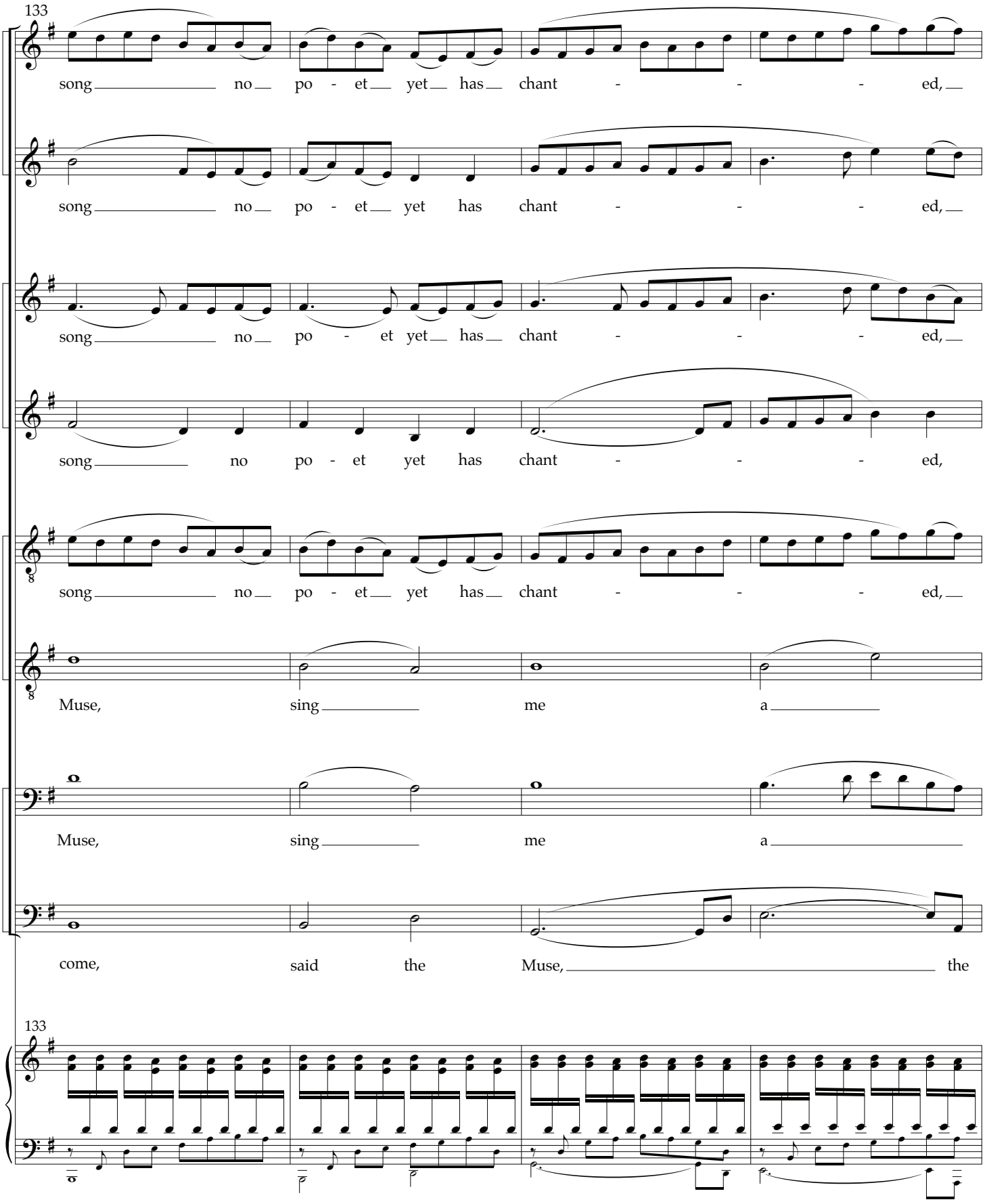

H
𝅗𝅥= 62
113
pp
S1
ing.
S2
A1
A2
T1
T2
B1
B2
mf
With pedal

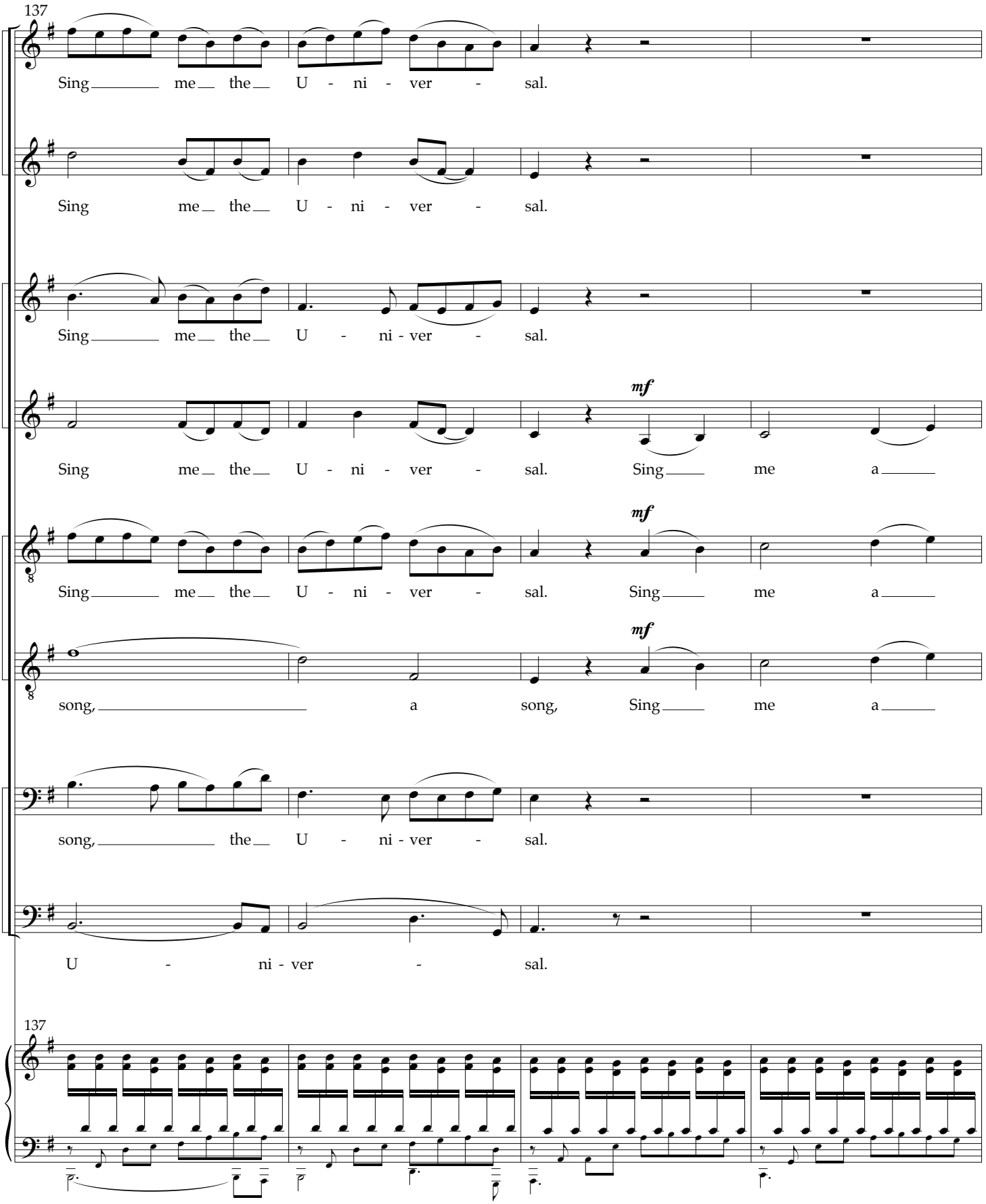

117
S1
S2
A1
A2
T1
T2
B1
B2
117

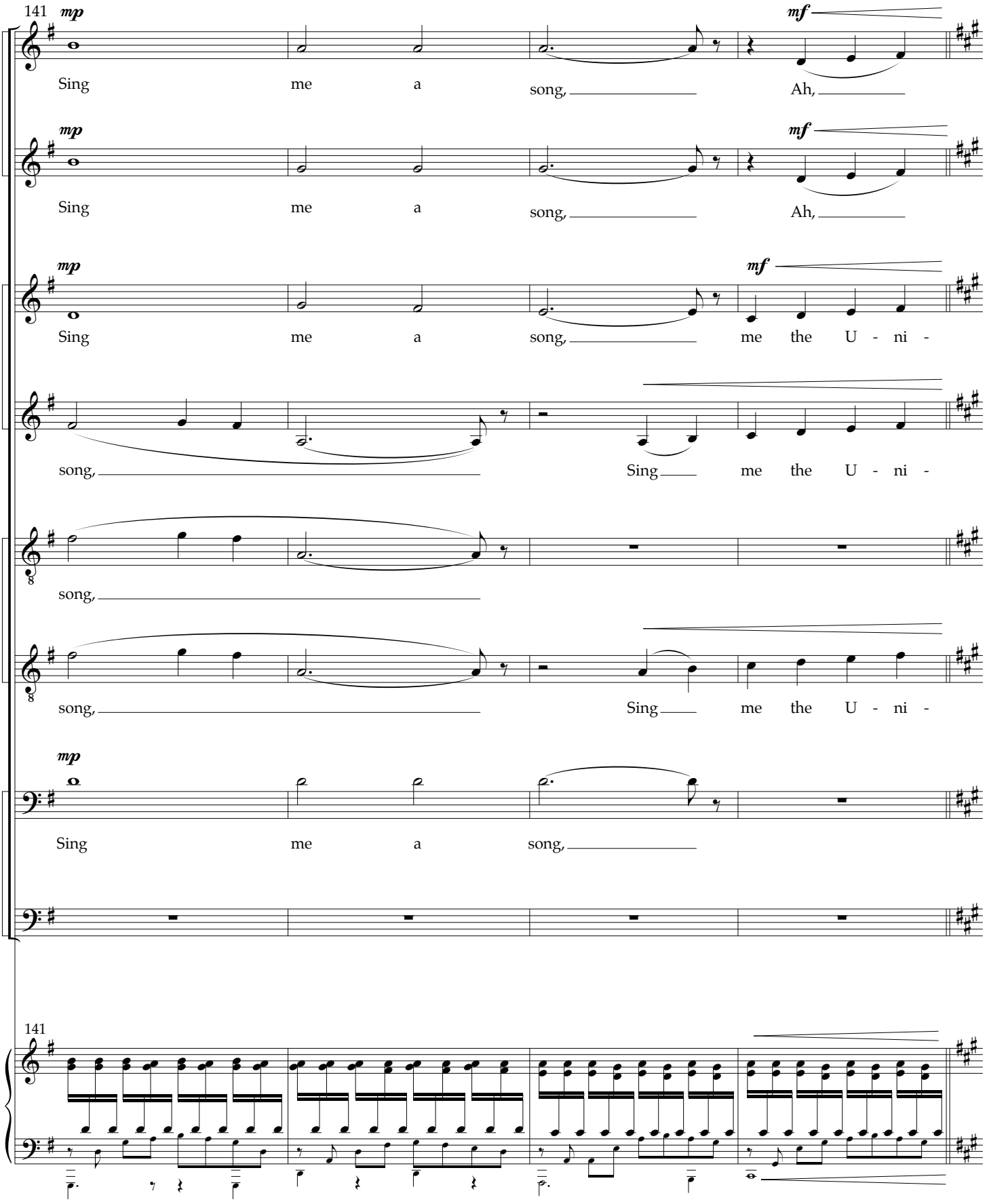

121
S1
pp
Sing
me
S2
pp
Sing
me
A1
pp
Sing
me
A2
pp
Sing
me
T1
pp
Sing
me
T2
pp
Sing
me
B1
pp
Sing
me
B2
pp
Sing
me
121
f

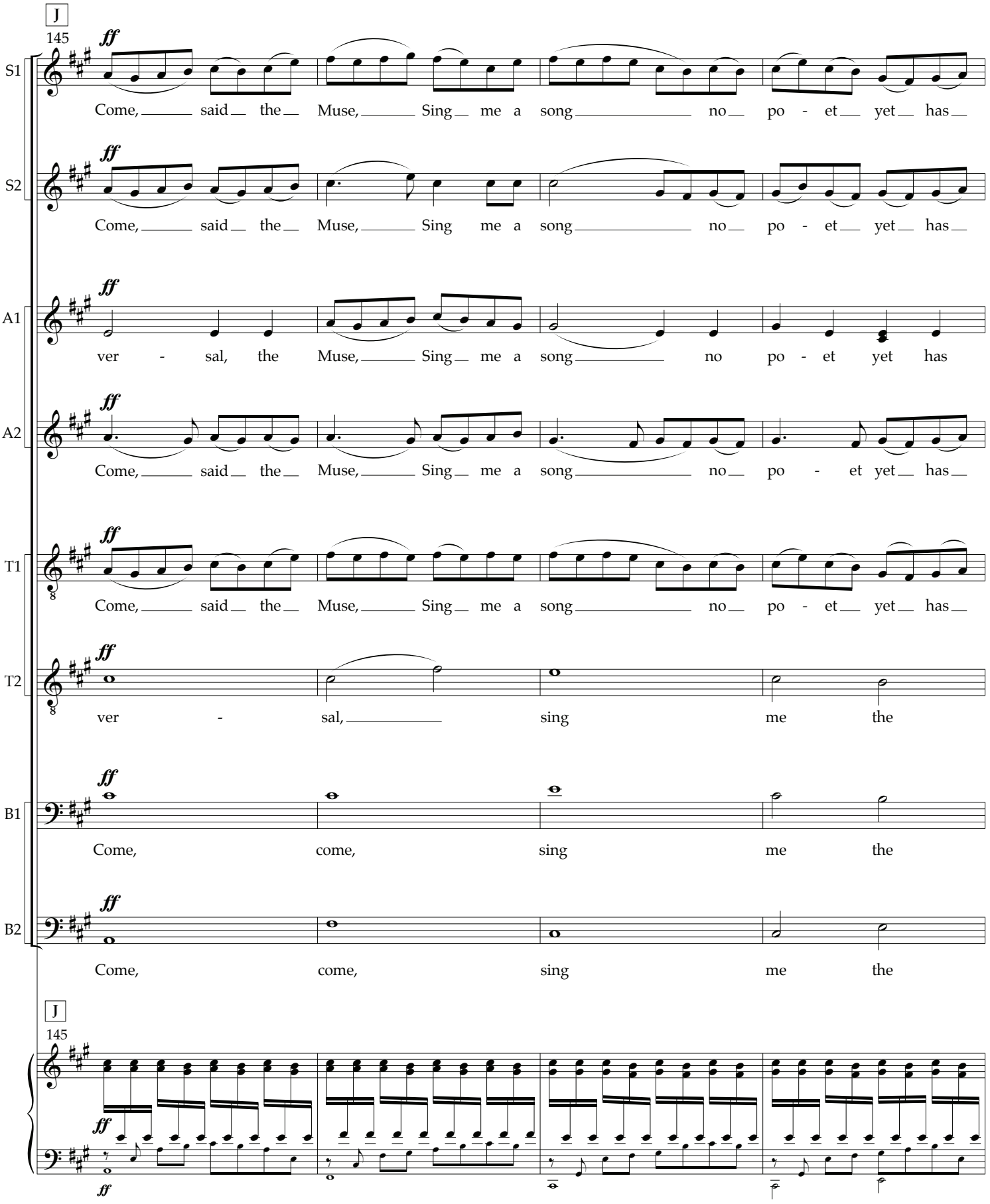

125
S1
the U - - - ni - ver -
S2
the U - - - ni - ver -
A1
the U - - - ni - ver -
A2
the U - - - ni - ver -
T1
the U - - - ni - ver -
T2
the U - - - ni - ver -
B1
the U - - - ni - ver -
B2
the U - - - ni - ver -
125

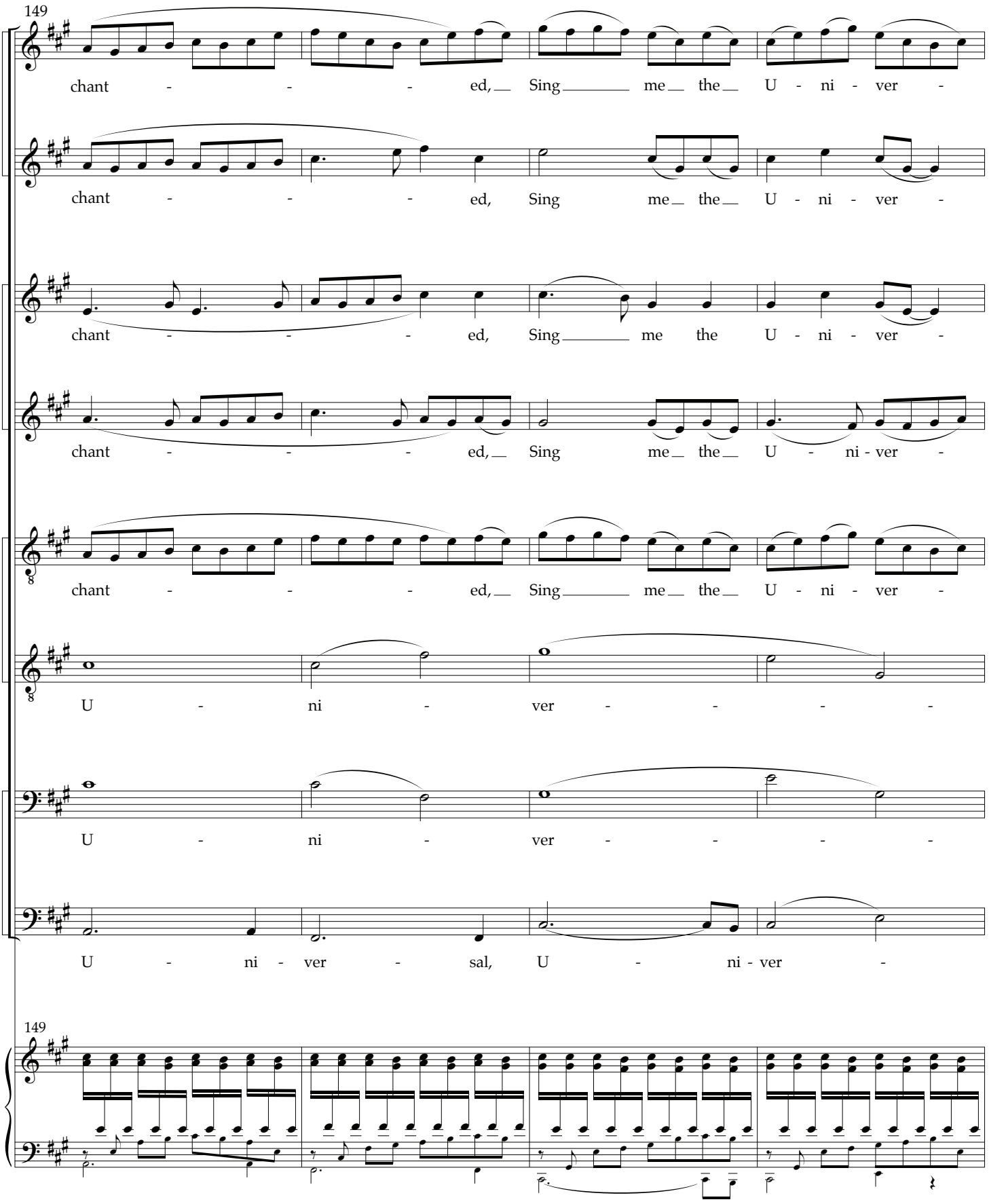

129
I
S1
S2
A1
A2
T1
T2
B1
B2
sal.
Come, said the Muse, Sing me a
Come, said the
Come, come,
Without pedal
(string cue)

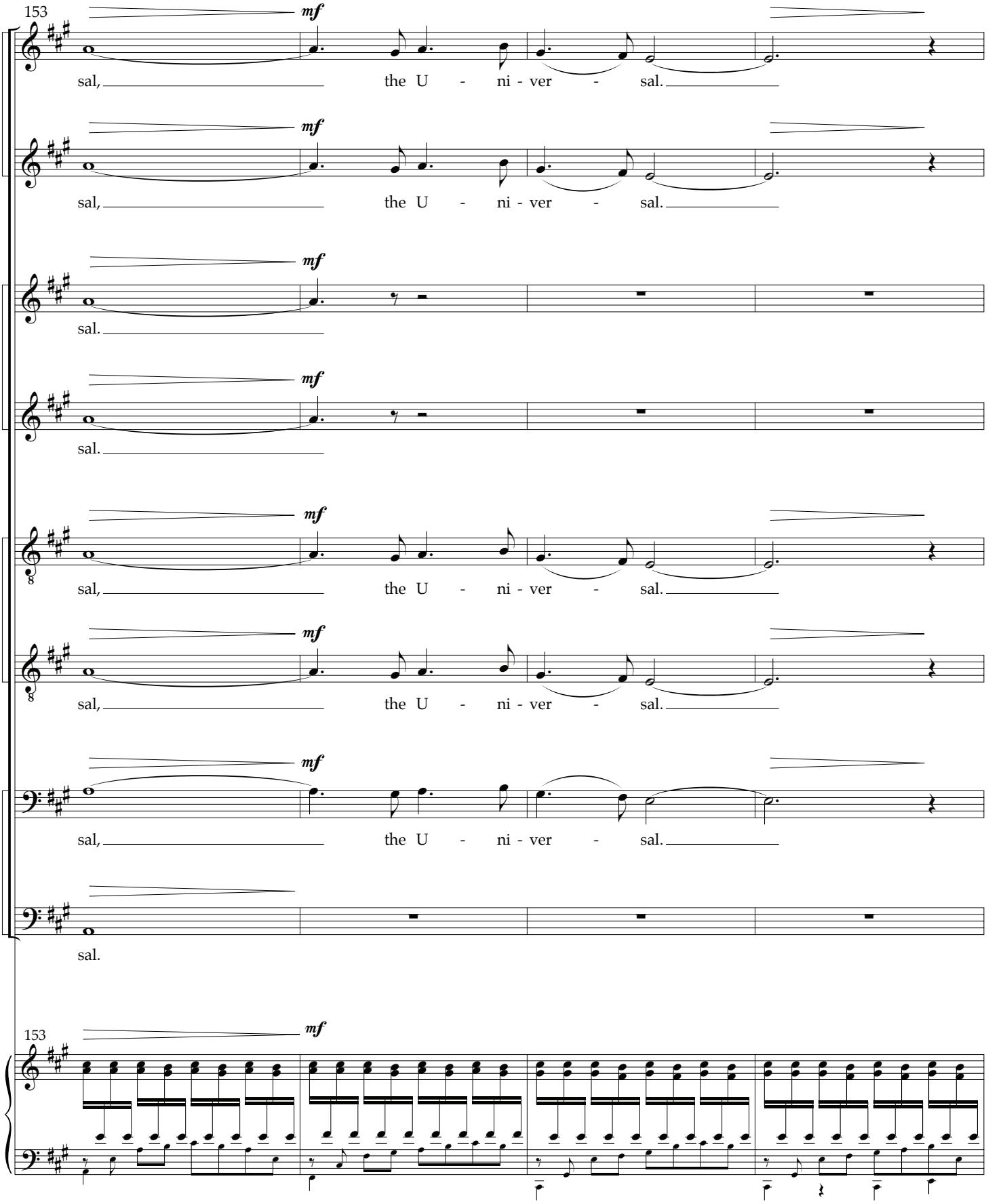

133
S1
song no po - et yet has chant - - - ed,
S2
song no po - et yet has chant - - - ed,
A1
song no po - et yet has chant - - - ed,
A2
song no po - et yet has chant - - - ed,
T1
song no po - et yet has chant - - - ed,
T2
Muse, sing me a
B1
Muse, sing me a
B2
come, said the Muse, the
133

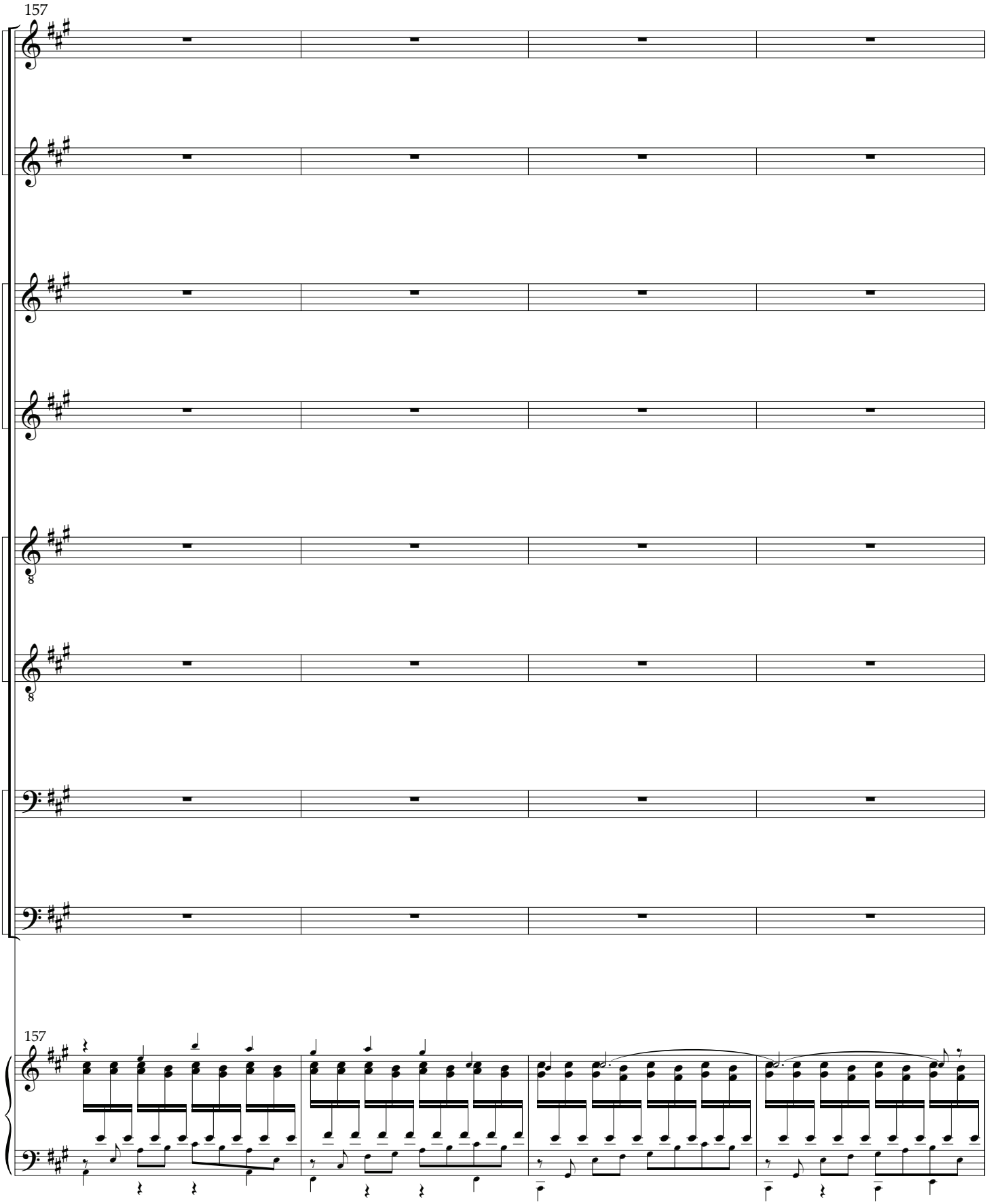

137
S1
Sing me the U - ni - ver - sal.
S2
Sing me the U - ni - ver - sal.
A1
Sing me the U - ni - ver - sal.
A2
mf
Sing me the U - ni - ver - sal. Sing me a
T1
mf
Sing me the U - ni - ver - sal. Sing me a
T2
mf
song, a song, Sing me a
B1
song, the U - ni - ver - sal.
B2
U - ni - ver - sal.
137

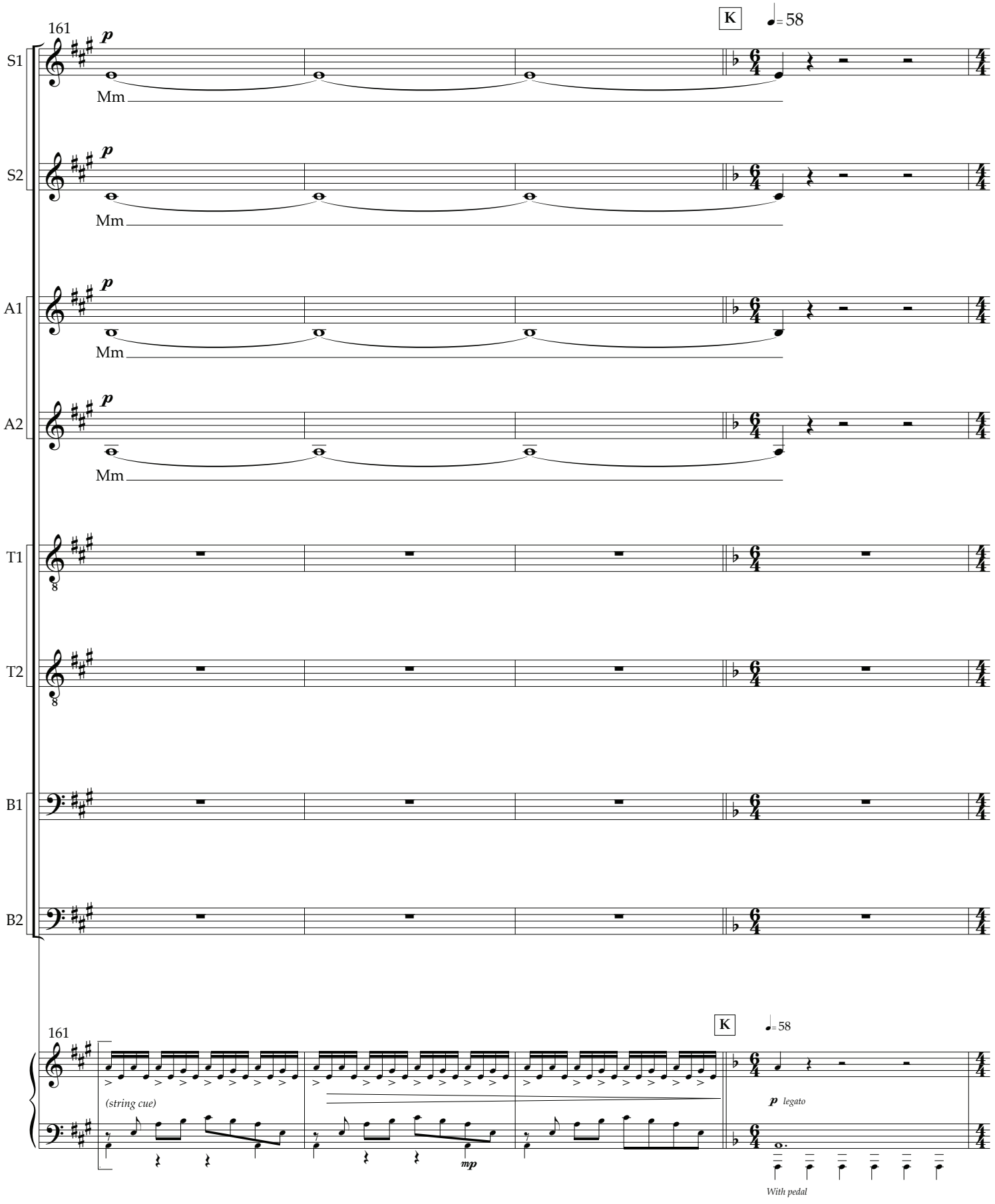

141
mp
mf
S1
Sing me a song, Ah,
S2
Sing me a song, Ah,
A1
Sing me a song, me the U - ni -
A2
song, Sing me the U - ni -
T1
song,
T2
song, Sing me the U - ni -
B1
Sing me a song,
B2
141

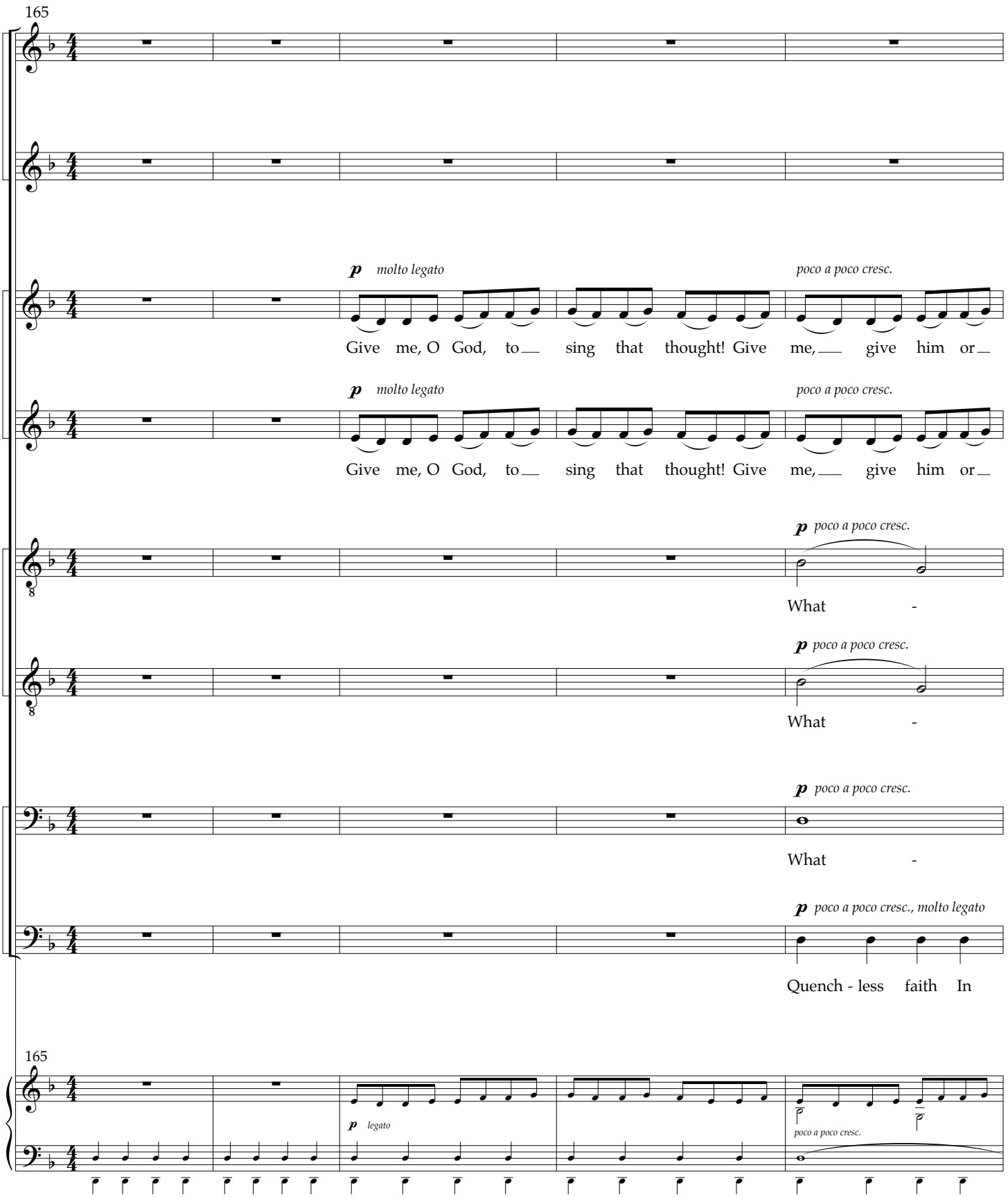

J
145
S1
ff
Come, said the Muse, Sing me a song no po - et yet has
S2
ff
Come, said the Muse, Sing me a song no po - et yet has
A1
ff
ver - sal, the Muse, Sing me a song no po - et yet has
A2
ff
Come, said the Muse, Sing me a song no po - et yet has
T1
ff
Come, said the Muse, Sing me a song no po - et yet has
T2
ff
ver - sal, sing me the
B1
ff
Come, come, sing me the
B2
ff
Come, come, sing me the
J
145
ff
ff

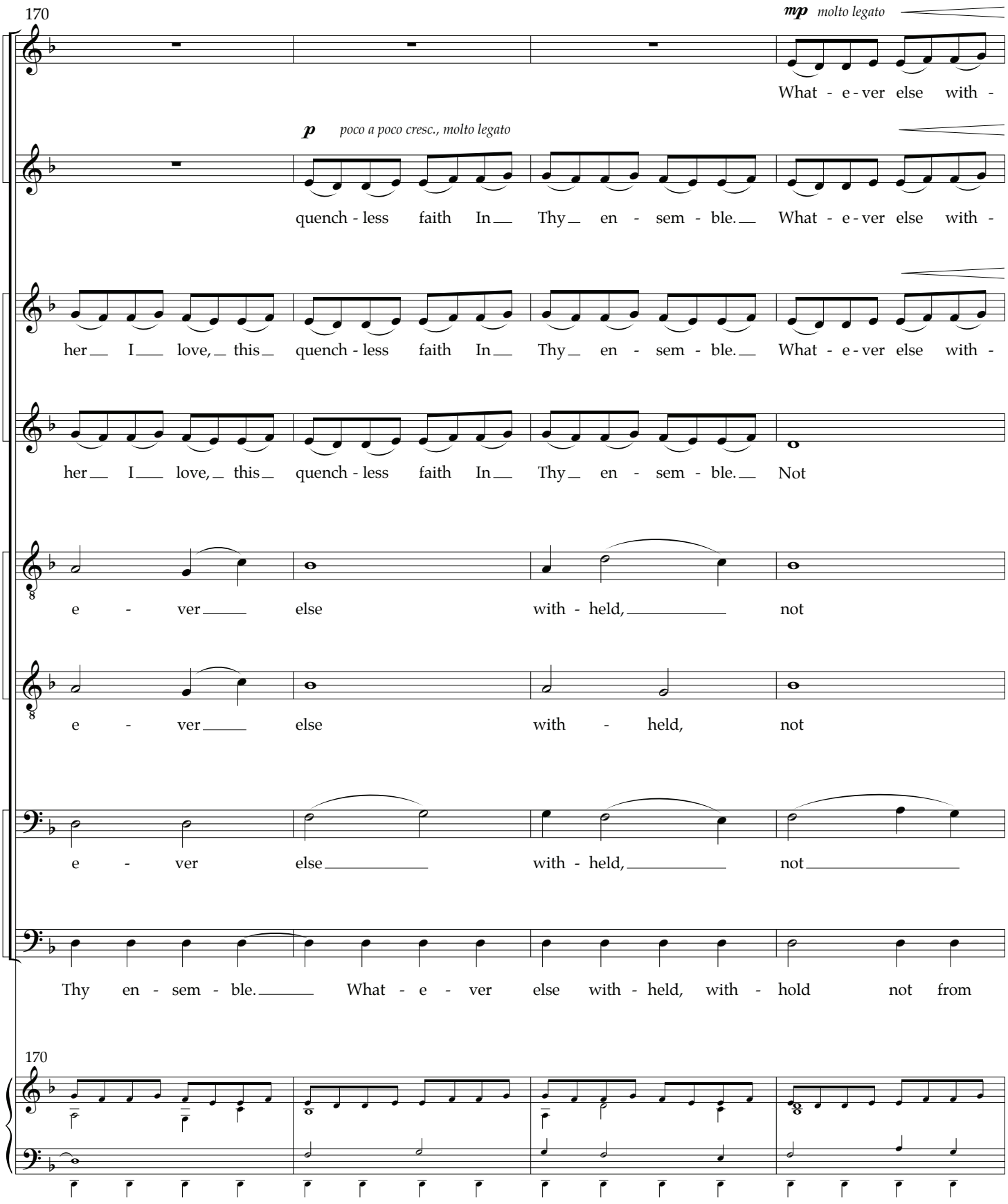

149
S1
chant - - - ed, Sing me the U - ni - ver -
S2
chant - - - ed, Sing me the U - ni - ver -
A1
chant - - - ed, Sing me the U - ni - ver -
A2
chant - - - ed, Sing me the U - ni - ver -
T1
chant - - - ed, Sing me the U - ni - ver -
T2
U - ni - ver - - - -
B1
U - ni - ver - - - -
B2
U - ni - ver - sal, U - ni - ver -
149

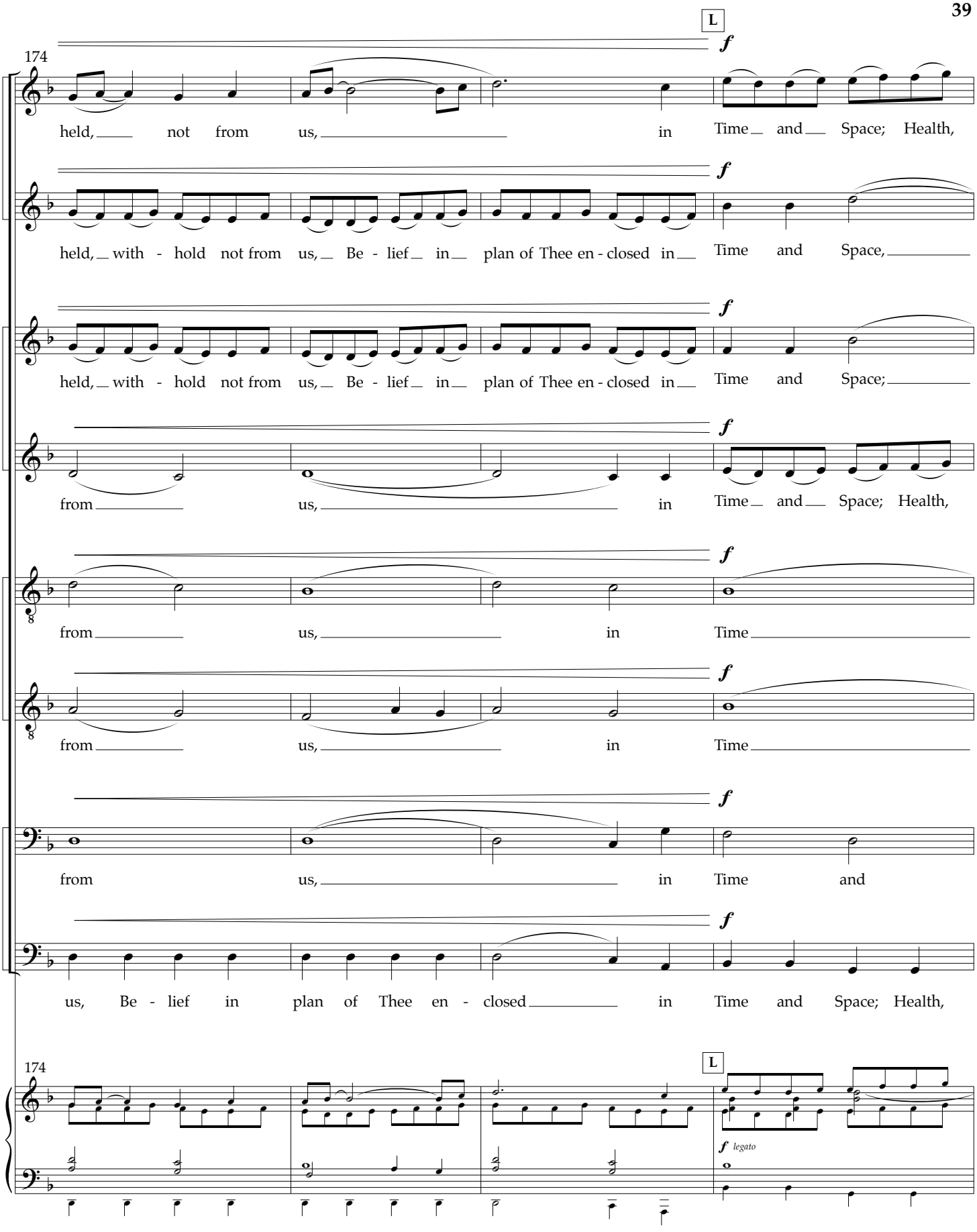

153
mf
S1
sal, the U - ni - ver - sal.
S2
sal, the U - ni - ver - sal.
A1
sal.
A2
sal.
T1
sal, the U - ni - ver - sal.
T2
sal, the U - ni - ver - sal.
B1
sal, the U - ni - ver - sal.
B2
sal.
153
mf

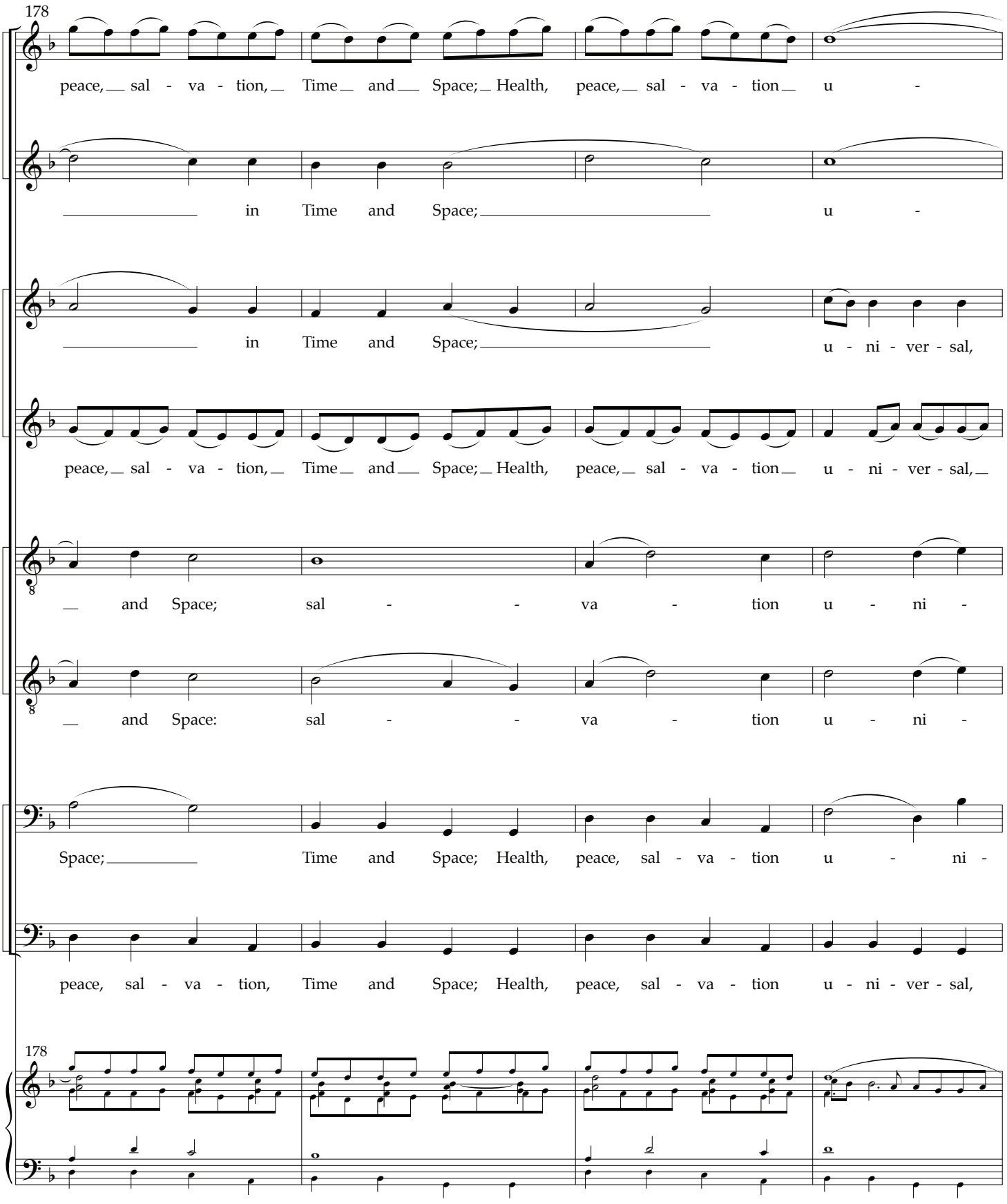

157
S1
S2
A1
A2
T1
T2
B1
B2
157

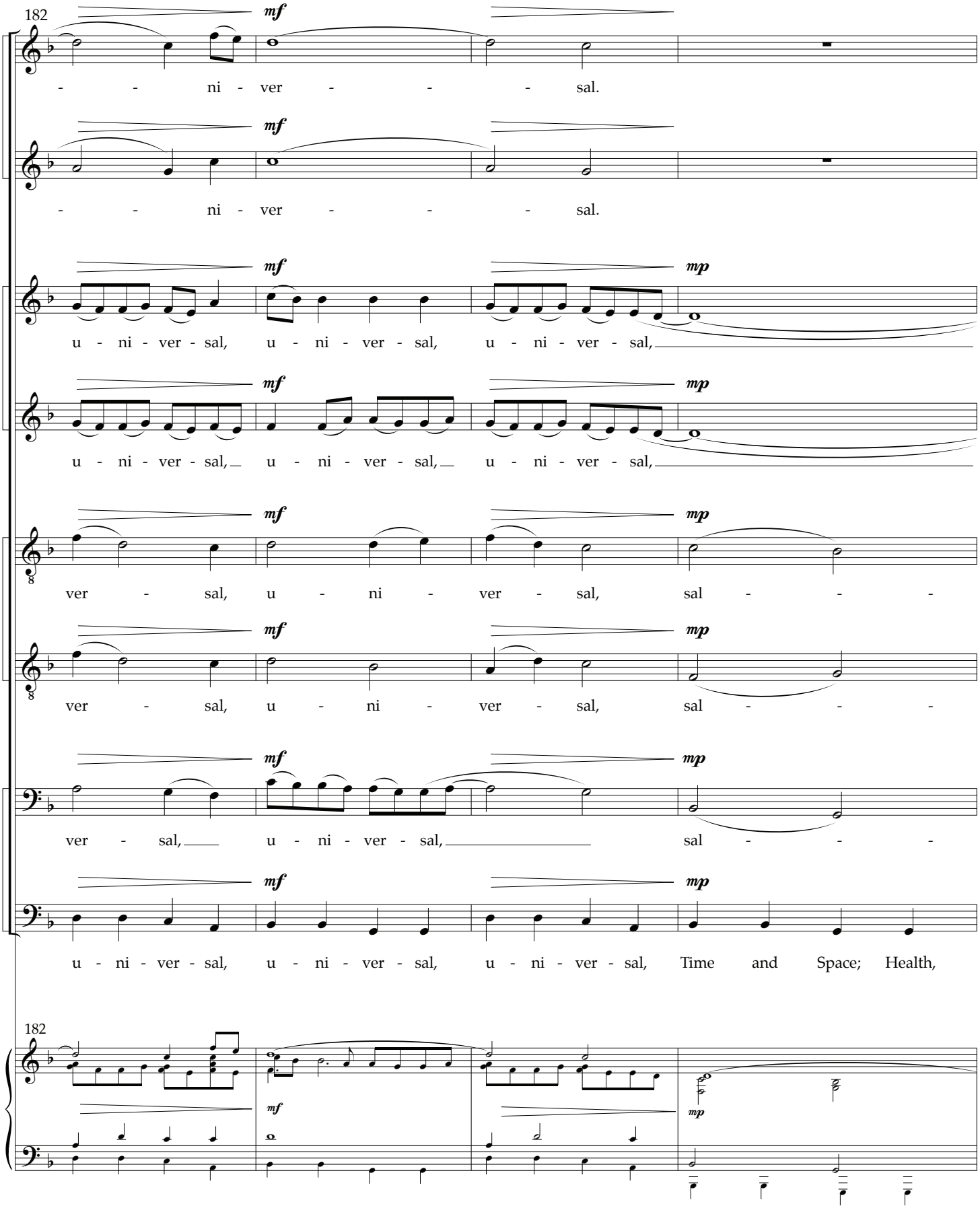

161
K
= 58
S1
p
Mm
S2
p
Mm
A1
p
Mm
A2
p
Mm
T1
T2
B1
B2
161
K
= 58
(string cue)
mp
p legato
With pedal

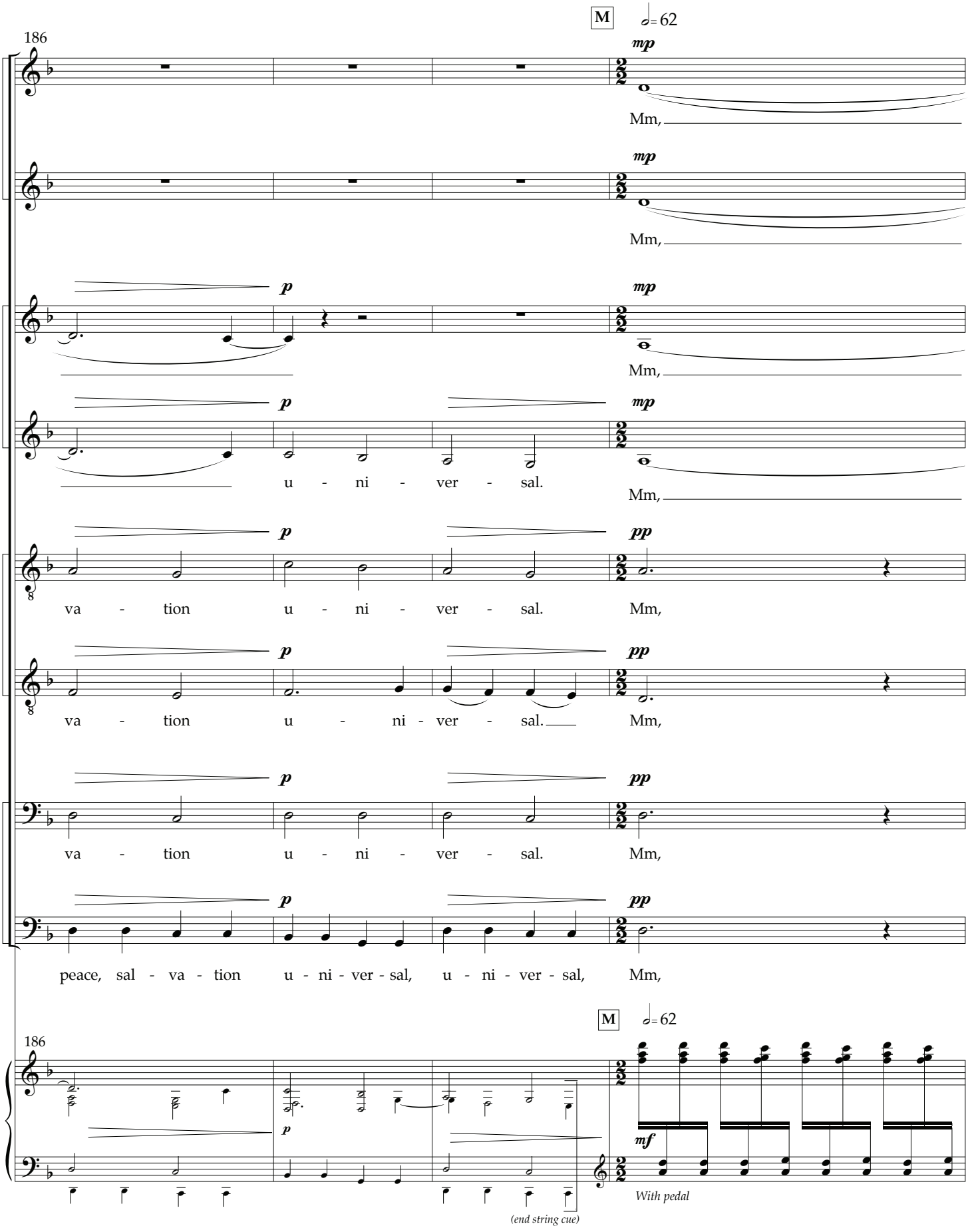

165
S1
S2
A1
p molto legato
poco a poco cresc.
Give me, O God, to sing that thought! Give me, give him or
A2
p molto legato
poco a poco cresc.
Give me, O God, to sing that thought! Give me, give him or
T1
p poco a poco cresc.
What -
T2
p poco a poco cresc.
What -
B1
p poco a poco cresc.
What -
B2
p poco a poco cresc., molto legato
Quench - less faith In
165
p legato
poco a poco cresc.

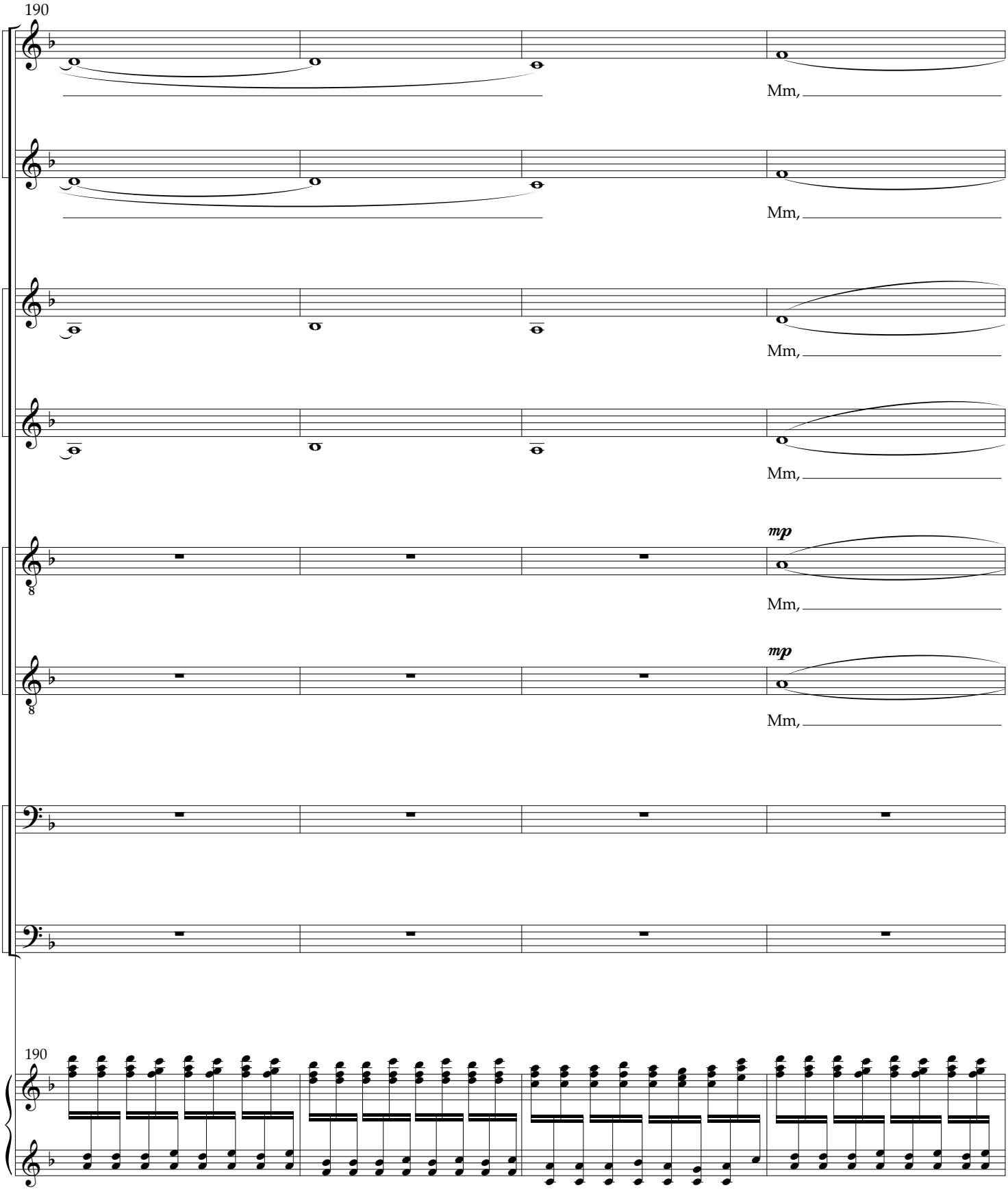

170
mp molto legato
S1
What - e - ver else with -
p poco a poco cresc., molto legato
S2
quench - less faith In Thy en - sem - ble. What - e - ver else with -
A1
her I love, this quench - less faith In Thy en - sem - ble. What - e - ver else with -
A2
her I love, this quench - less faith In Thy en - sem - ble. Not
T1
e - ver else with - held, not
T2
e - ver else with - held, not
B1
e - ver else with - held, not
B2
Thy en - sem - ble. What - e - ver else with - held, with - hold not from
170

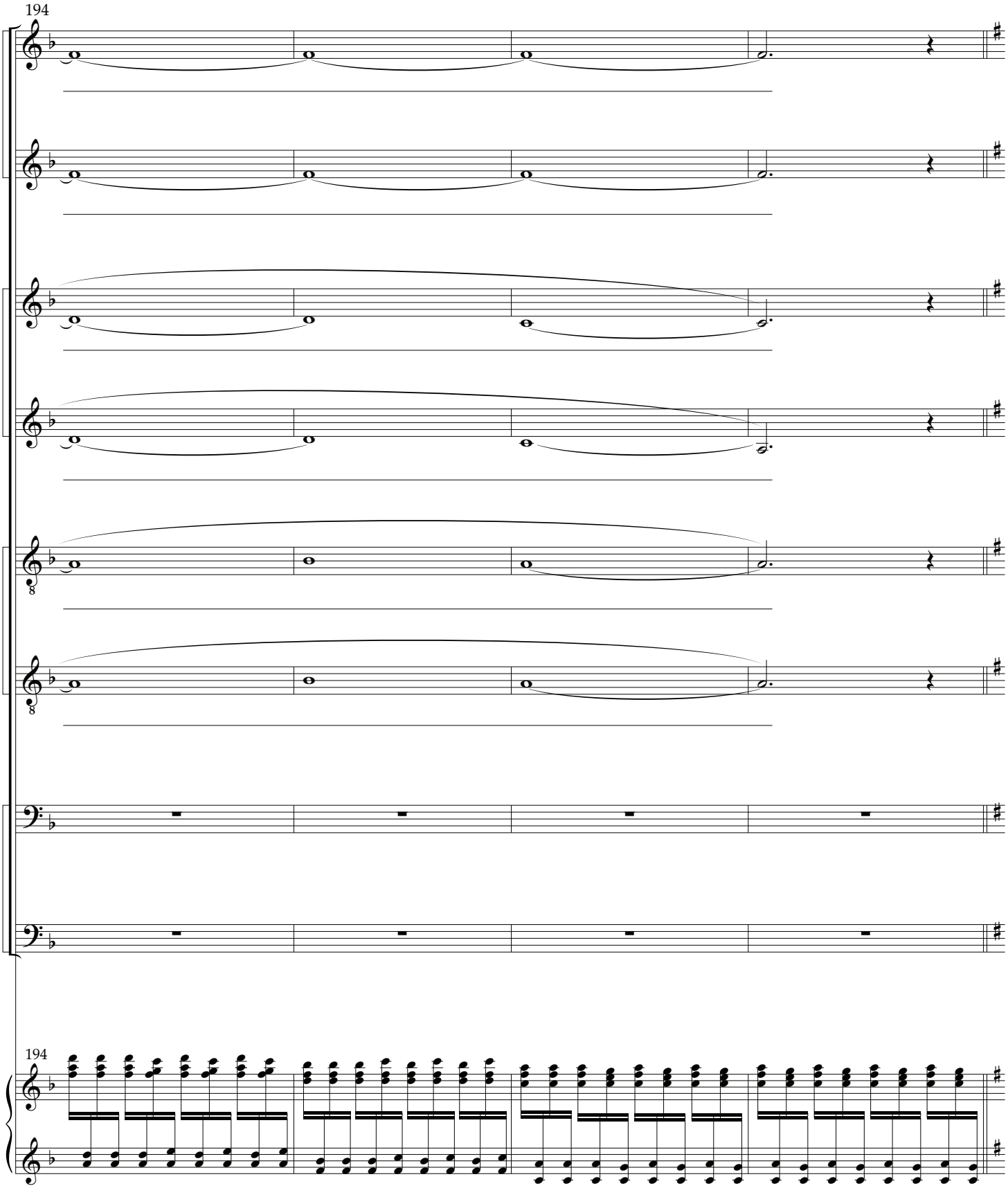

L
174
S1
held, not from us, in Time and Space; Health,
S2
held, with - hold not from us, Be - lief in plan of Thee en - closed in Time and Space,
A1
held, with - hold not from us, Be - lief in plan of Thee en - closed in Time and Space;
A2
from us, in Time and Space; Health,
T1
from us, in Time
T2
from us, in Time
B1
from us, in Time and
B2
us, Be - lief in plan of Thee en - closed in Time and Space; Health,
L
174
f
f legato

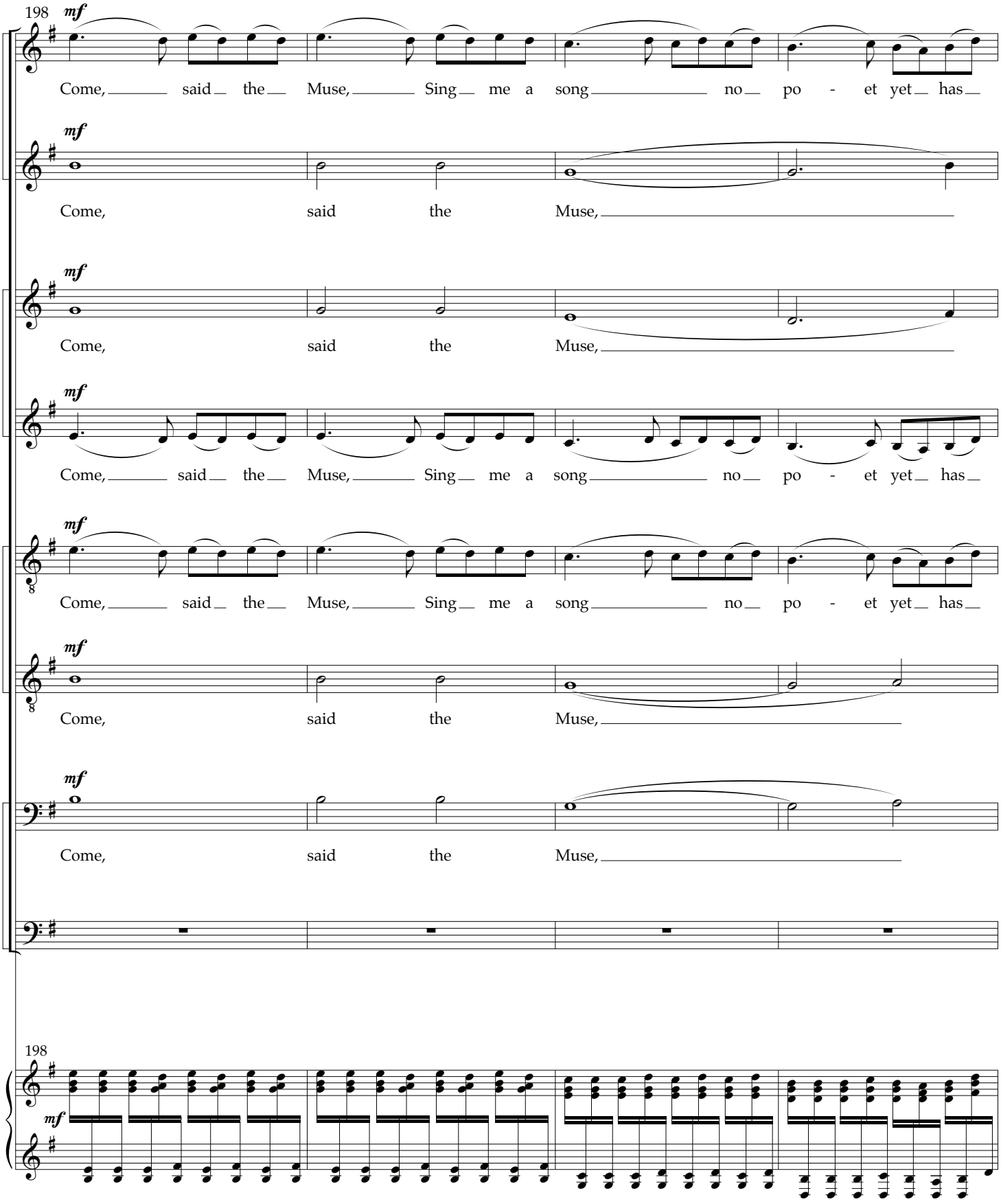

178
S1
peace, sal - va - tion, Time and Space; Health, peace, sal - va - tion u -
S2
in Time and Space; u -
A1
in Time and Space; u - ni - ver - sal,
A2
peace, sal - va - tion, Time and Space; Health, peace, sal - va - tion u - ni - ver - sal,
T1
and Space; sal - va - tion u - ni -
T2
and Space: sal - va - tion u - ni -
B1
Space; Time and Space; Health, peace, sal - va - tion u - ni -
B2
peace, sal - va - tion, Time and Space; Health, peace, sal - va - tion u - ni - ver - sal,
178

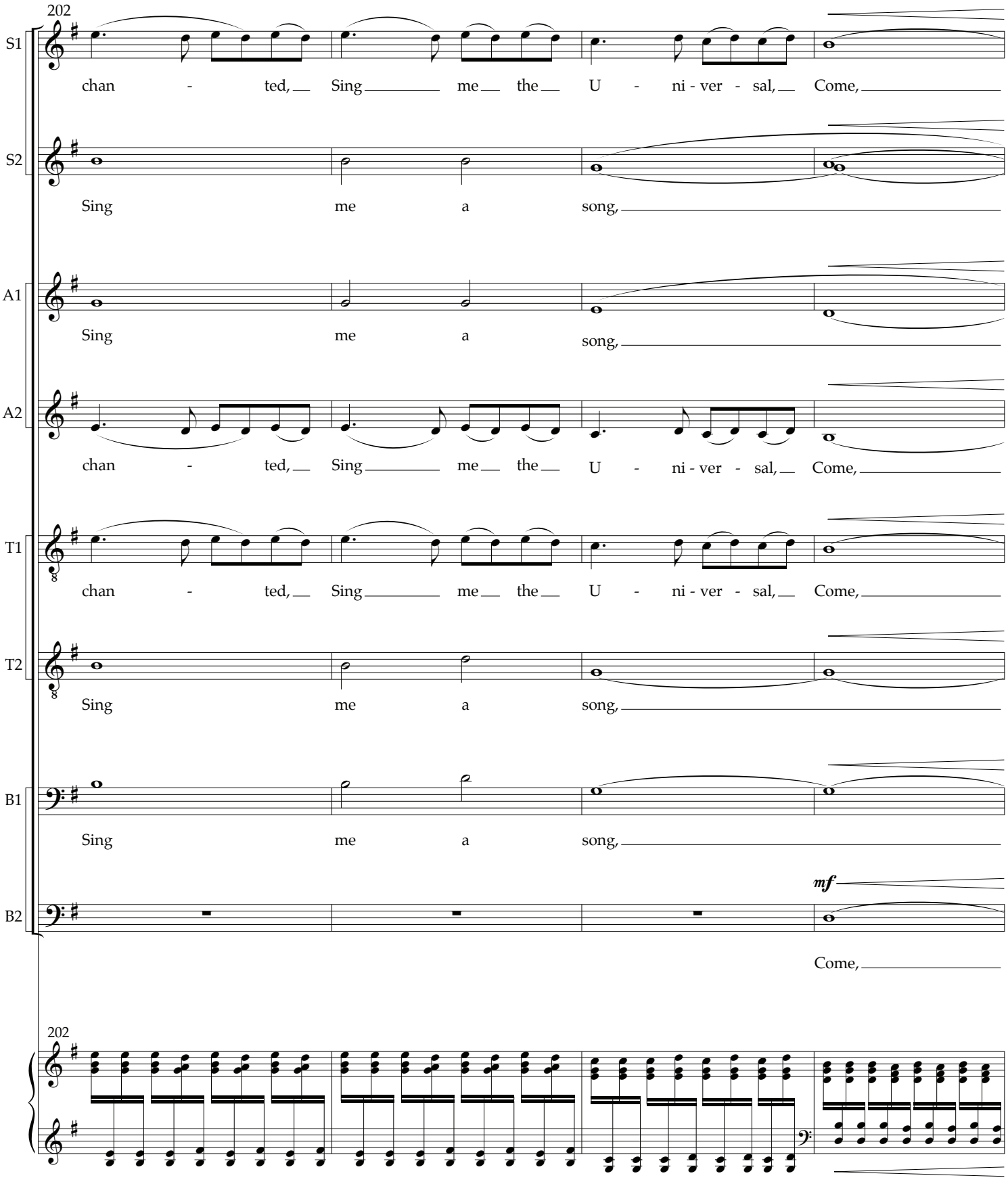

182
S1
mf
- - ni - ver - - - sal.
S2
mf
- - ni - ver - - - sal.
A1
mf
mp
u - ni - ver - sal, u - ni - ver - sal, u - ni - ver - sal,
A2
mf
mp
u - ni - ver - sal, u - ni - ver - sal, u - ni - ver - sal,
T1
mf
mp
ver - sal, u - ni - ver - sal, sal - - -
T2
mf
mp
ver - sal, u - ni - ver - sal, sal - - -
B1
mf
mp
ver - sal, u - ni - ver - sal, sal - - -
B2
mf
mp
u - ni - ver - sal, u - ni - ver - sal, u - ni - ver - sal, Time and Space; Health,
182
mf
mp

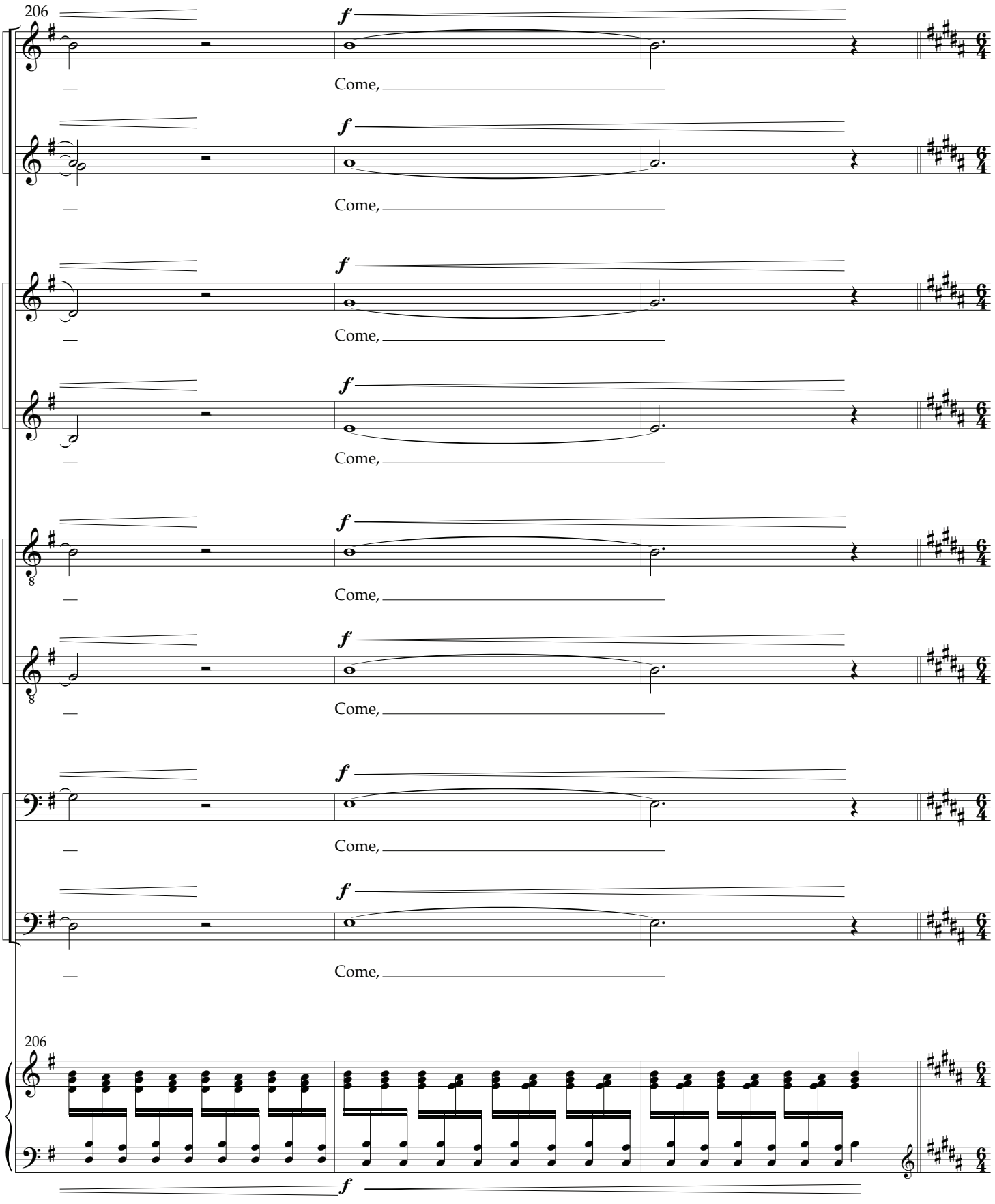

M
♩= 62
186
S1
mp
Mm,
S2
mp
Mm,
A1
p
mp
Mm,
A2
p
mp
u - ni - ver - sal.
Mm,
T1
p
pp
va - tion u - ni - ver - sal. Mm,
T2
p
pp
va - tion u - ni - ver - sal. Mm,
B1
p
pp
va - tion u - ni - ver - sal. Mm,
B2
p
pp
peace, sal - va - tion u - ni - ver - sal, u - ni - ver - sal, Mm,
M
♩= 62
186
p
mf
With pedal
(end string cue)

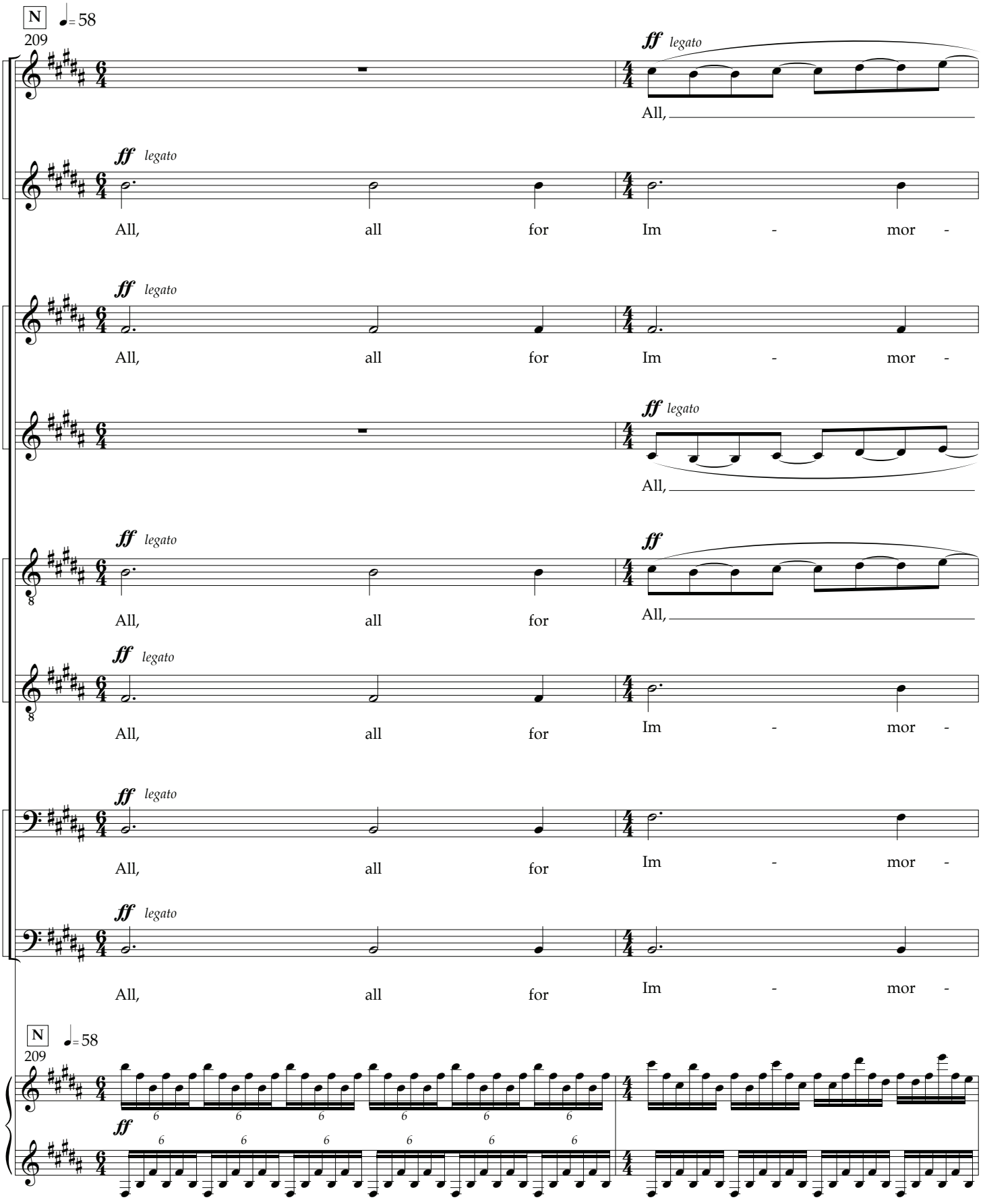

190
S1
Mm,
S2
Mm,
A1
Mm,
A2
Mm,
T1
mp
Mm,
T2
mp
Mm,
B1
B2
190

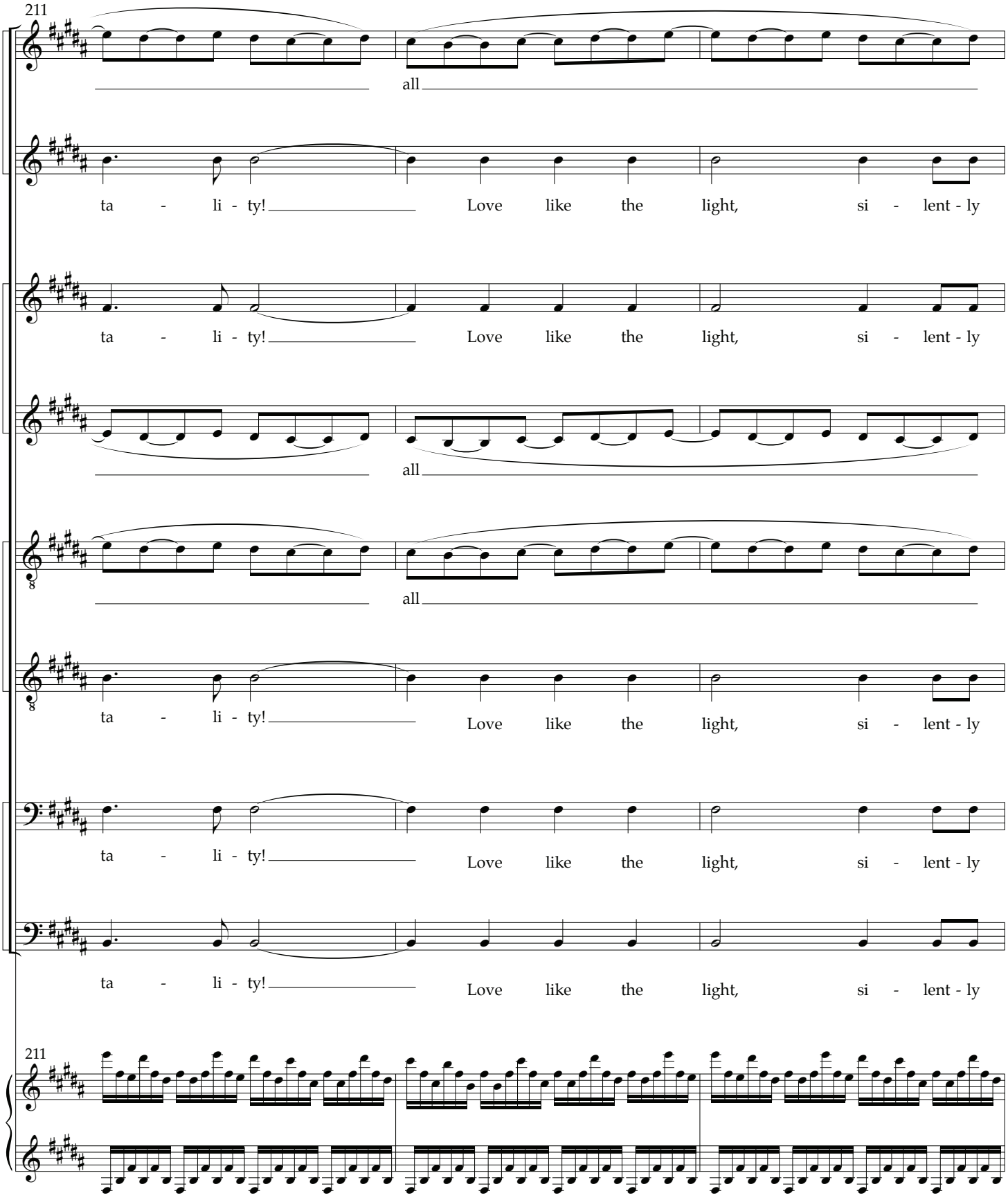

194
S1
S2
A1
A2
T1
T2
B1
B2
194

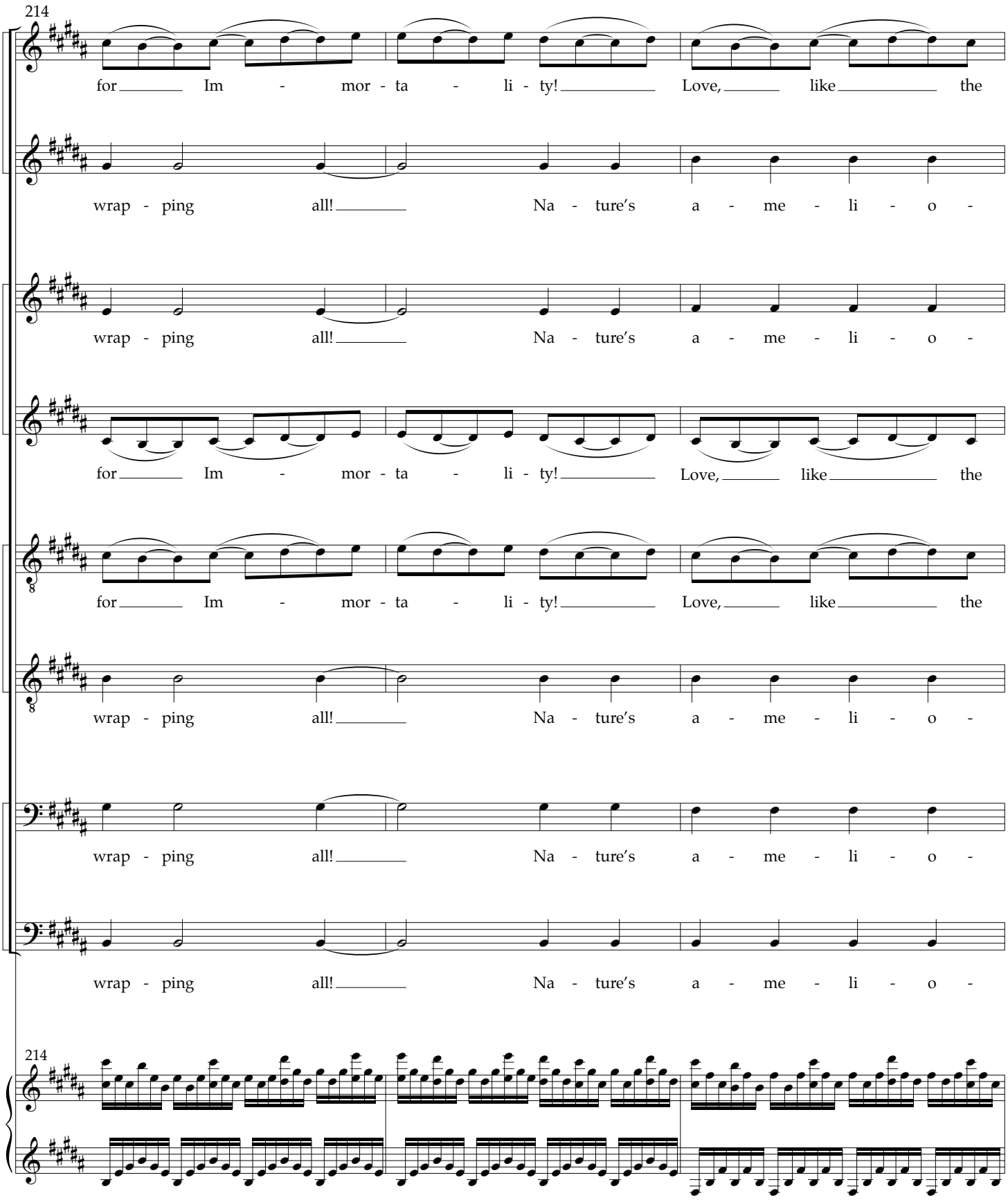

198
mf
S1
Come, said the Muse, Sing me a song no po - et yet has
S2
Come, said the Muse,
A1
Come, said the Muse,
A2
Come, said the Muse, Sing me a song no po - et yet has
T1
Come, said the Muse, Sing me a song no po - et yet has
T2
Come, said the Muse,
B1
Come, said the Muse,
B2
198
mf

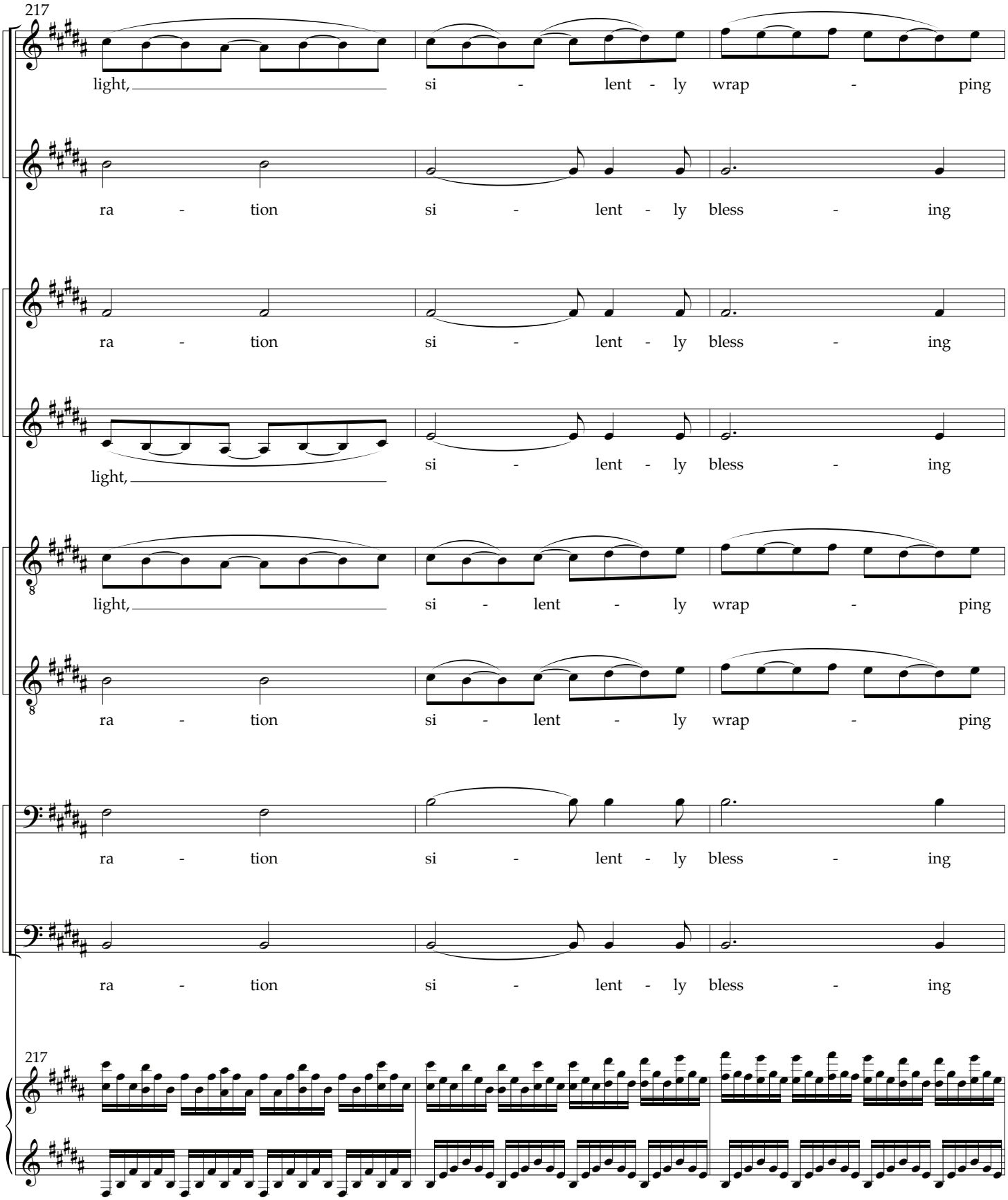

202
S1
chan - ted, Sing me the U - ni - ver - sal, Come,
S2
Sing me a song,
A1
Sing me a song,
A2
chan - ted, Sing me the U - ni - ver - sal, Come,
T1
chan - ted, Sing me the U - ni - ver - sal, Come,
T2
Sing me a song,
B1
Sing me a song,
B2
mf
Come,
202

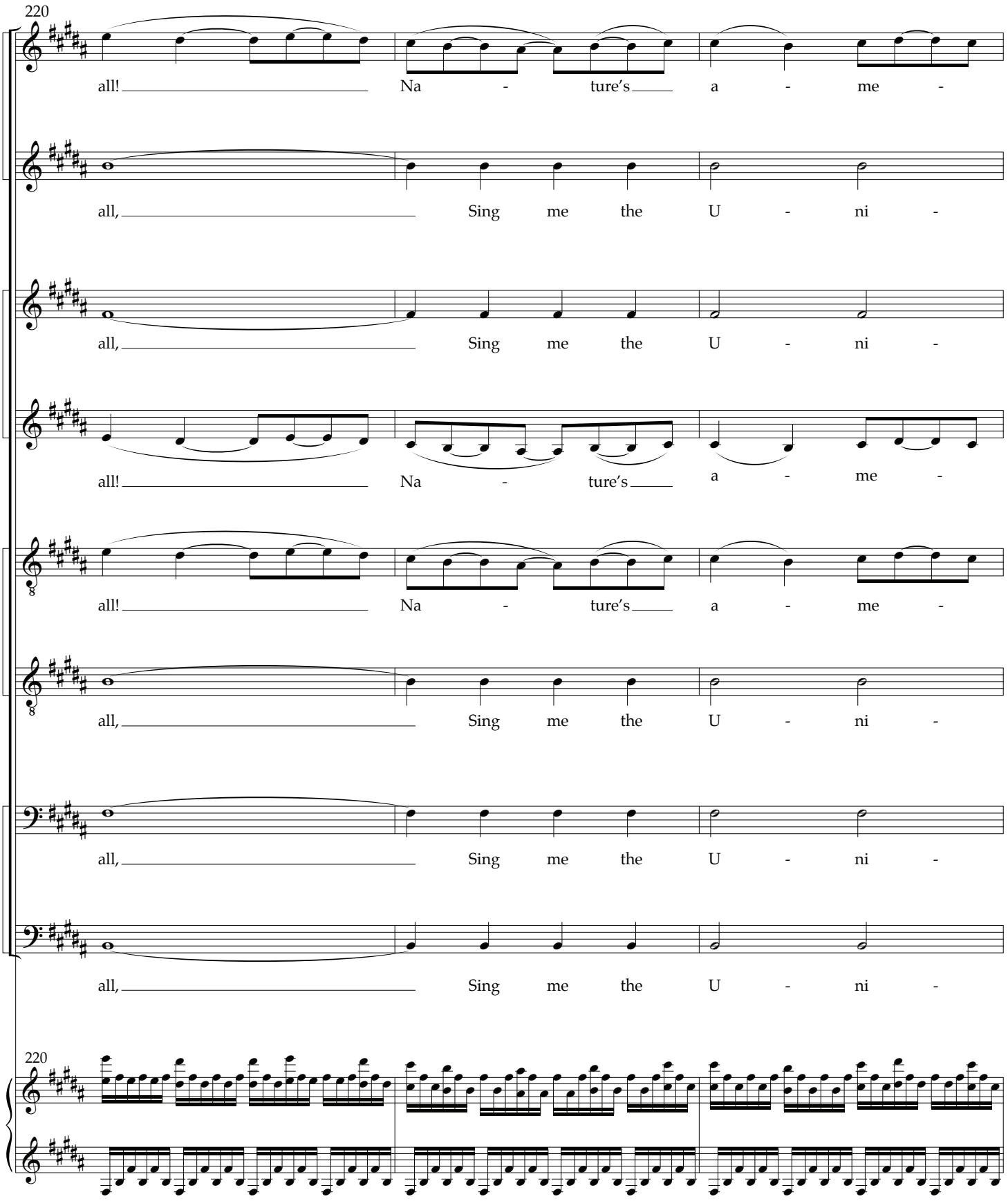

206
S1
S2
A1
A2
T1
T2
B1
B2
f
Come,
206
f

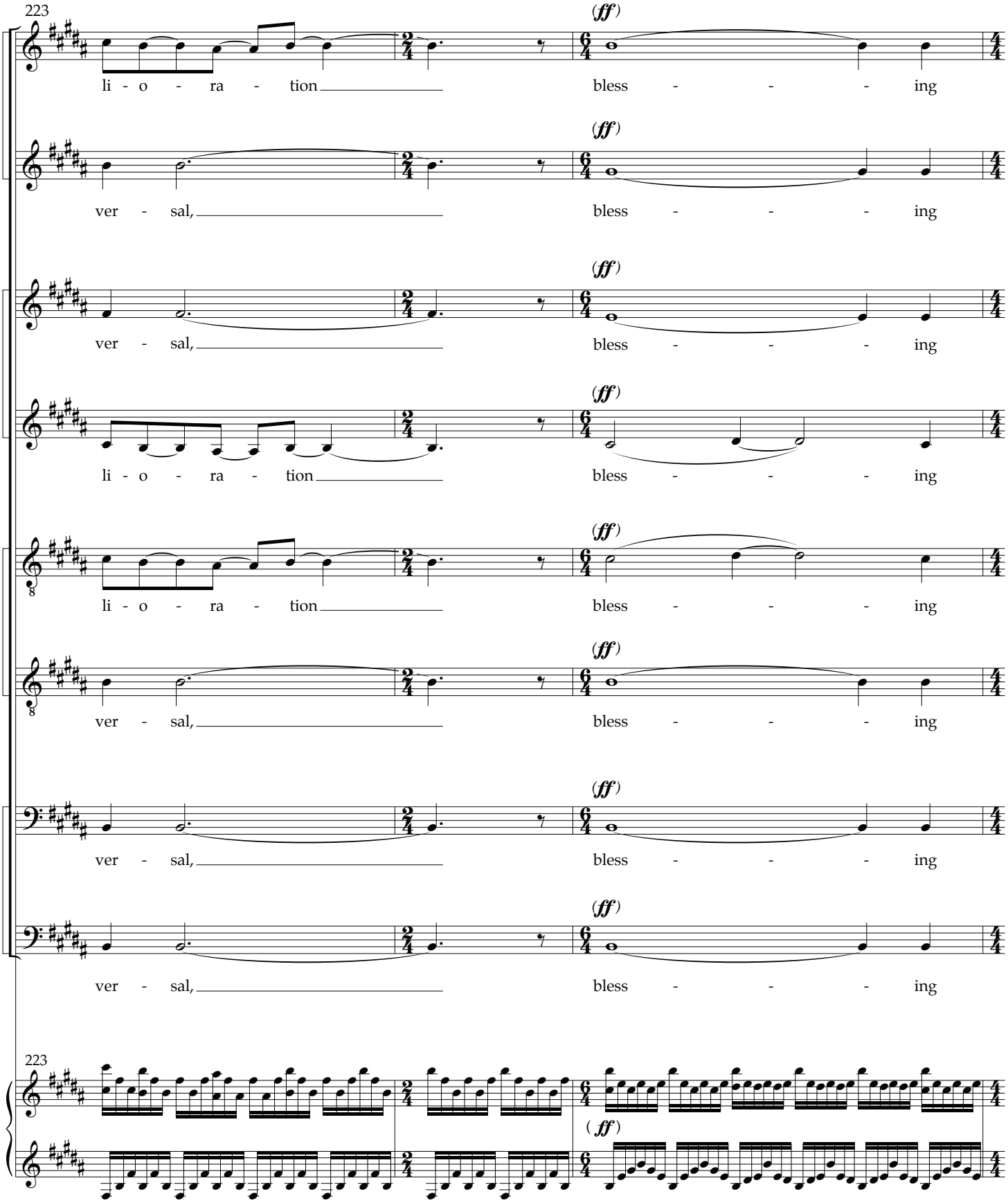

N
209
= 58
S1
S2
A1
A2
T1
T2
B1
B2
ff legato
All,
all
for
Im
-
mor
-

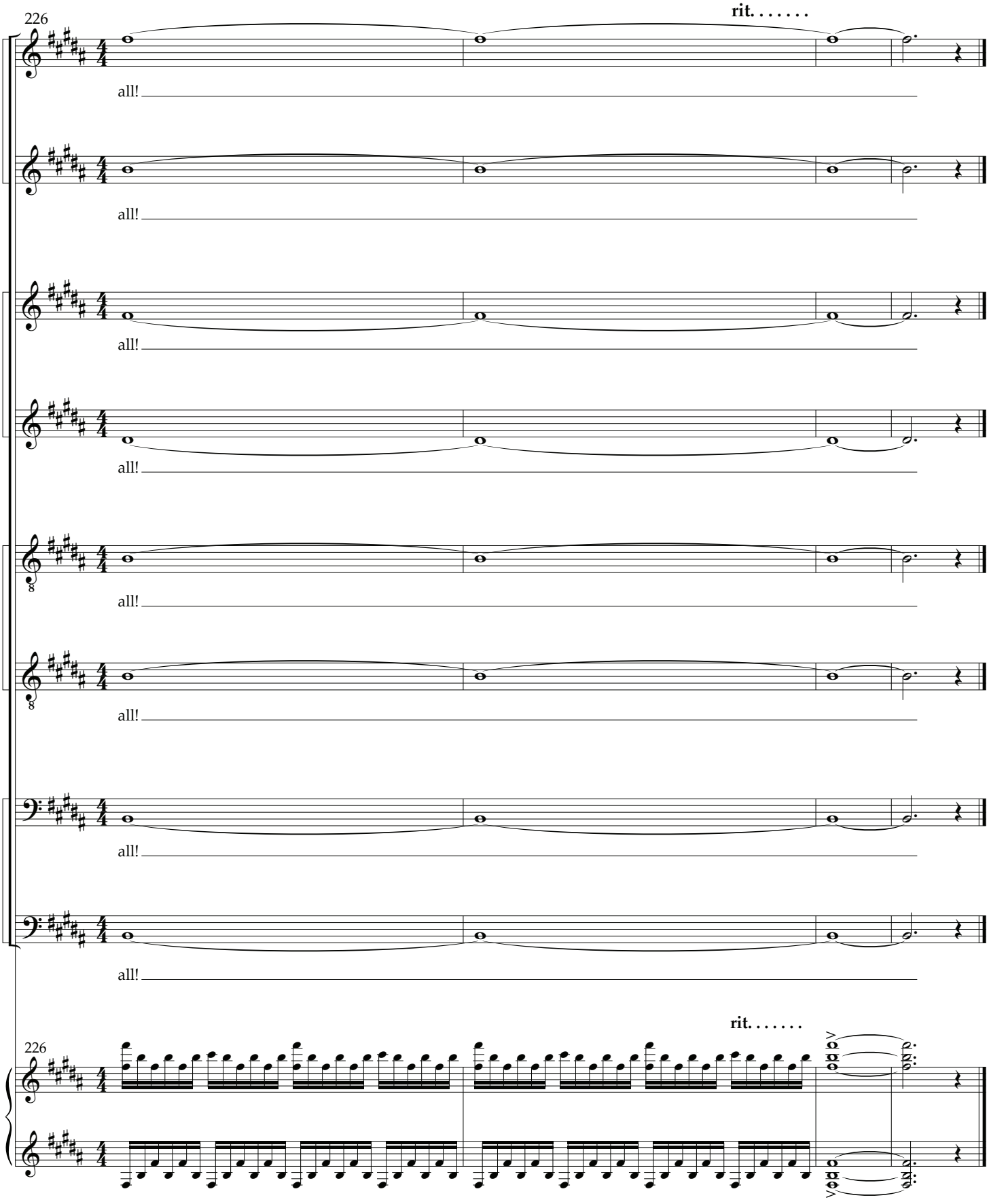

211
S1
all
S2
ta - li - ty! Love like the light, si - lent - ly
A1
ta - li - ty! Love like the light, si - lent - ly
A2
all
T1
all
T2
ta - li - ty! Love like the light, si - lent - ly
B1
ta - li - ty! Love like the light, si - lent - ly
B2
ta - li - ty! Love like the light, si - lent - ly
211


214
S1
for Im - mor - ta - li - ty! Love, like the
S2
wrap - ping all! Na - ture's a - me - li - o -
A1
wrap - ping all! Na - ture's a - me - li - o -
A2
for Im - mor - ta - li - ty! Love, like the
T1
for Im - mor - ta - li - ty! Love, like the
T2
wrap - ping all! Na - ture's a - me - li - o -
B1
wrap - ping all! Na - ture's a - me - li - o -
B2
wrap - ping all! Na - ture's a - me - li - o -
214


217
S1
light, si - lent - ly wrap - ping
S2
ra - tion si - lent - ly bless - ing
A1
ra - tion si - lent - ly bless - ing
A2
light, si - lent - ly bless - ing
T1
light, si - lent - ly wrap - ping
T2
ra - tion si - lent - ly wrap - ping
B1
ra - tion si - lent - ly bless - ing
B2
ra - tion si - lent - ly bless - ing
217


220
S1
all! Na - ture's a - me -
S2
all, Sing me the U - ni -
A1
all, Sing me the U - ni -
A2
all! Na - ture's a - me -
T1
all! Na - ture's a - me -
T2
all, Sing me the U - ni -
B1
all, Sing me the U - ni -
B2
all, Sing me the U - ni -
220


223
S1
li - o - ra - tion
(ff)
bless - - - ing
S2
ver - sal,
A1
A2
T1
T2
B1
B2


226
rit. . . . . .
S1
all!
S2
all!
A1
all!
A2
all!
T1
all!
T2
all!
B1
all!
B2
all!
226
rit. . . . . .

Other Walton Choral Works by Ola Gjeilo

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SSAA • WLG131

The Ground
SATB divisi • WW1460
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Song of the Universal
SATB divisi • WW1642
SSAA • WW1526

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Full Score and Parts • WW1464A

Tota Pulchra Es
SATB divisi • WW1417

Tundra
SSAA • WW1459
Full Score and Parts • WW1459A

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TTBB • WW1418

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Sacred Heart (Ubi Caritas III)
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